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Cristiano Ronaldo, 41, will lead Portugal in record 6th WC after coach Martinez announces a 27-man squad, with a symbolic 'plus one' in memory of late Diogo Jota. In surprise recall, Brazil names **Neymar in squad for his fourth World Cup,** P 22

Nepal govt plans to change its statutory rape law by introducing a 'Romeo-Juliet' clause that will prevent consensual relationships between teens close in age from automatically becoming rape cases, P 18

Over 60 years after leaving college to pursue a professional tennis career, Billie Jean King, 82, finally walks across the graduation stage and **earns her bachelor's degree** in history from California State University, P 18

Russian Prez Putin lands in China for meetings with Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping less than a week after Trump wrapped up his trip. Putin and Xi will discuss economic cooperation between two countries and also hold talks on 'key international and regional issues', P 18

SC won't budge: Human life paramount, strays must go

'Ill, Aggressive, Rabid Dogs Can Be Euthanised'

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> The right to live with dignity under Art 21...encompasses **right of every citizen to move freely and access public spaces without...constant apprehension** of physical harm, attack or exposure to **life-threatening events such as dog bites**
>
> **The scheme of ABC Rules, 2023... cannot be elevated to confer... unqualified right of existence upon such animals**...particularly in spaces where considerations of public safety assume significance
> —SC bench

New Delhi: Holding that constitutional balance must tilt in favour of human life if it clashes with welfare of animals, Supreme Court on Tuesday strongly reaffirmed its order to remove stray dogs from public institutions and spaces — hospitals, schools, colleges, playgrounds — noting that dog bite cases have assumed an "alarming proportion".

It directed govt to take all legally permissible measures to control the problem, including euthanasia in cases involving rabid, incurably ill or demonstrably dangerous dogs.

"The right guaranteed under Article 21 of Constitution ...stands at the highest pedestal of constitutional protection, and casts upon the State an affirmative, non-negotiable and continuing duty to take all expedient, effective, preventive and legally permissible measures...to secure citizens against threats to life and safety arising from stray dog attacks," a bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and NV Anjaria said.

The top court bench said compassion for animal life, howsoever important, cannot be interpreted in a manner that compels citizens to endure recurring threats to their own lives, safety and bodily integrity.

▶ 600 lawyers appeared for dog lovers in apex court, P 6
▶ SC abdicated responsibility on the issue, says Maneka, P 7
▶ Can't be oblivious, P 7

Error in verdict, refer case to larger bench: Cops to top court

New Delhi: A day after SC disapproved of its own order denying bail to Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam, saying it violated a larger bench ruling, difference of opinion among benches reverberated in the court's hearing on bail plea of other accused in 2020 Delhi riots cases, with police Tuesday telling SC that the case had to be referred to a larger bench, as there seems to be an error in the verdict.

Referring to SC's May 18 order which said presumption of innocence is the cornerstone of any civilised society governed by rule of law, additional solicitor general S V Raju told a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and Prasanna B Varale that mandatory "presumption of innocence takes a backseat" in case of a special law such as UAPA. TNN

▶ Delhi court rejects Umar Khalid's interim bail, P 17
▶ Hollowing out, P 7

Falta's 'Pushpa' bows out of WB assembly repoll

Kolkata: TMC's Falta candidate Jahangir Khan announced Tuesday he would not contest May 21 repoll in Bengal's only assembly seat where EC ordered a fresh vote over electoral malpractice, coinciding with CM Suvendu Adhikari's roadshow through the constituency and his appeal to voters to hand BJP victory by a margin of "at least 1 lakh", report **Tamaghna Banerjee & Dwaipayan Ghosh**.

Khan, a close aide of TMC's Abhishek Banerjee, had been embroiled in a 'Pushpa vs Singham' faceoff with UP-cadre IPS officer and Diamond Harbour election observer Ajay Pal Sharma before April 29 polling.

▶ Prime accused in Suvendu aide's murder arrested, P 7
▶ Continued on page 11

Prices of petrol, diesel hiked again by 90p, up by nearly ₹4 in a week

New Delhi: Oil marketing companies Tuesday hiked petrol and diesel prices by nearly 90 paise per litre, effecting a second revision in less than a week, as their losses mount due to a surge in global crude oil rates, **reports Atul Mathur**.

Petrol now **costs Rs 107.12 per litre in Bengaluru, while diesel is priced at Rs 95.04.** Prices vary across states due to different value-added tax structures. Despite the two revisions, totalling nearly Rs 4, oil firm executives said they were still incurring losses, though they declined to give numbers.

The price hike came as it emerged that state-run IndianOil was losing Rs 617 on each LPG cylinder sold by it for domestic use, up from Rs 100 in Feb.

▶ Continued on page 11

Crude imports in April down 4.3%, bill up 50%

Crude volumes purchased by India in April this year fell 4.3% compared with the same month last year, but the import bill surged by more than 50% due to a sharp rise in global oil prices, as per govt's provisional data. TNN

Rupee closes at new low of 96.53/dollar

Rupee weakened to a record closing low of 96.53 against the dollar Tuesday, marking its sixth straight session of decline as sustained high crude oil prices and adverse global cues continued to weigh on the currency. P 19

After HC order, no bus strike from today

Bengaluru: Hours after the high court Tuesday restrained KSRTC employees from going on strike from Wednesday seeking higher wage revision, trade unions withdrew the strike call.

Jayadevaraje Urs, convener of Joint Action Committee of trade unions of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation Employees, said the court has directed the state govt to fix a date for discussing employee grievances. A key demand is a 25% hike in wages from Jan 1, 2024. Govt has announced a 12.5% revsion, effective April 1, 2025.

Welcoming the court order, transport minister Ramalinga Reddy said the strike call was against the interest of both corporations and employees. TNN

▶ 'Strike call illegal', P 3

INDIA-NORDIC TIES GET WARMER

ANI

PM Modi interacts with (from left) his Iceland counterpart Kristrún Frostadóttir, Swedish PM Ulf Kristersson, Denmark PM Mette Frederiksen, Finnish PM Petteri Orpo and Norway PM Jonas Gahr Støre, during the 3rd India-Nordic Summit, in Oslo Tuesday. The summit witnessed the nations upgrading their relationship to a **green technology and innovation strategic partnership and signing an agreement to leverage India-EU FTA and India-EFTA TEPA.** The Nordic countries concluded **six other pacts** with India in areas like climate action, Arctic cooperation, talent mobility and defence industrial collaboration. Modi said in an era of global conflict, India and Nordic countries would continue to advocate for a rules-based global order. The Nordic states also reiterated their support for India's permanent membership in an expanded UN Security Council | P 6, 8 & 17

Global terror gets a makeover as ultras opt for cosmetic ops

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STRATEGIC DISGUISE?

- Lashkar operatives **Usman Jutt and Shabbir Ahmed Lone** allegedly underwent procedures at Indian clinics
- While such procedures may stem from vanity in some cases, they could also be attempts to **evade facial recognition systems**
- 26/11 plotter **Sajid Mir** and **Carlos the Jackal** had also opted for facial transformation to travel undetected

Lashkar-e-Taiba operative Usman Jutt was a man on a mission – till vanity got in the way. He successfully infiltrated into India from Pakistan with the objective of establishing a sleeper cell, but put that on hold while he checked into a medical clinic in Srinagar for a hair transplant.

Jutt's not the only case of a mission losing out to the mirror. Shabbir Ahmed Lone, who was setting up an LeT cell in Bangladesh and was arrested by Delhi Police in March, had also got a dental procedure done in a private clinic in Gurgaon, sources say. In a soon-to-be filed chargesheet, the special cell has mentioned the details of these treatments. Lone was arrested in March after cops tracked down alleged members of his cell, recruited from Bengal and TN, who had pasted inflammatory posters in Delhi ahead of the AI summit.

However, the makeover trend may not be just a case of vanity gone rogue. For some, it could also be a deliberate bid to foil surveillance efforts and facial-recognition systems.

▶ Ideological zeal, P 7

Injured elephant succumbs day after tourist death

Madikeri: A day after a woman tourist from Tamil Nadu was crushed to death at Dubare elephant camp here when an elephant fell on her while trying to escape an attacking tusker, the elephant injured by the tusker died Tuesday.

Marthanda, 35, the injured male makhna (without tusks), died despite being treated by vets at the camp.

DCF (Madikeri) Abhishek said wildlife experts Dr Mujib and Dr Chittiappa treated Marthanda immediately after the jumbo was attacked by 28-year-old male tusker Kanjan on Monday, but it succumbed to severe injuries at seven places, including the stomach. TNN

▶ Kanjan in isolation, P 3

Man travels with live bullets from US, arrested in B'luru

Bengaluru: What began as a routine hotel checkout in Bengaluru's JC Nagar quickly snowballed into a police probe involving an American citizen, a firearm magazine loaded with seven live bullets, and serious questions over airport security checks.

Arman Mutaahar, 34, an American citizen of Indian origin, was arrested on May 4 after police recovered a Ruger magazine containing seven live bullets from a hotel room he had vacated. The case has now sparked scrutiny not only under the Arms Act, but also over how the ammunition allegedly passed undetected through airport scanners in both US and at KIA.

According to investigators, Mutaahar claimed the bullets belonged to his licensed revolver in US. During questioning, he reportedly told police that he had absent-mindedly stuffed the loaded magazine into a trouser pocket before packing the trouser into his luggage, unaware that the magazine was still inside. TNN

FOUND IN HOTEL

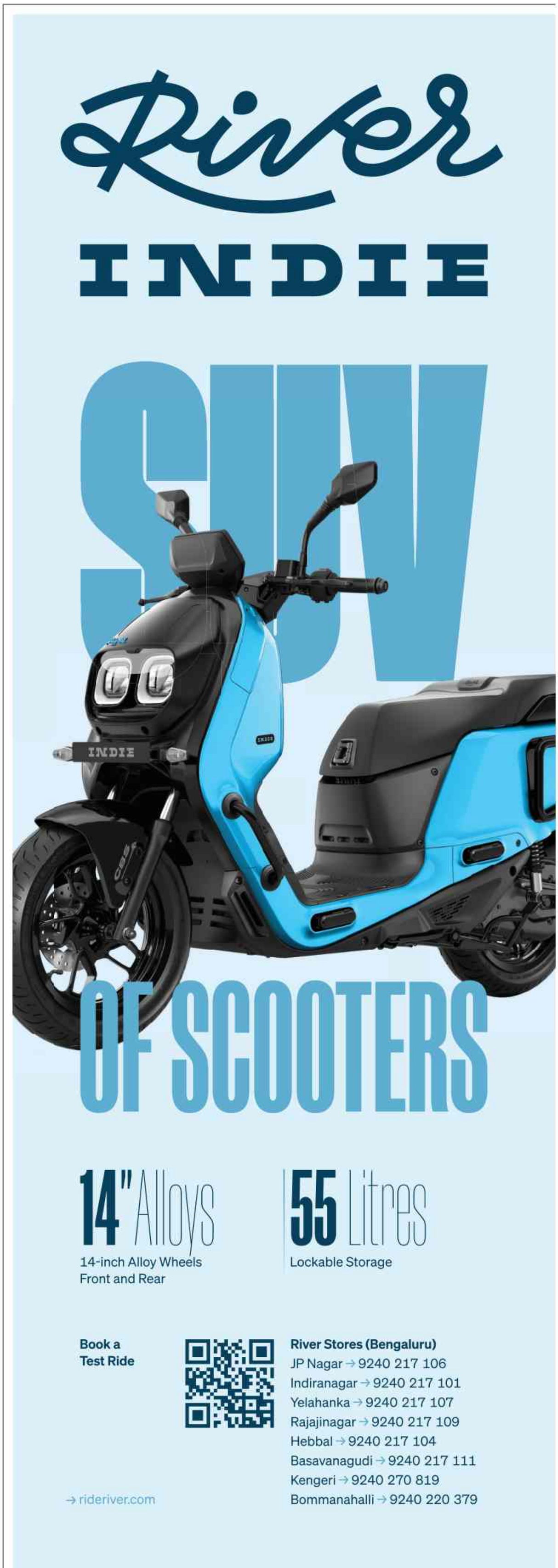
- On April 27, Arman Mutaahar **checks into a hotel in JC Nagar**, checks out next morning
- After leaving, Mutaahar calls hotel to say he has **left behind a gun magazine with bullets**
- When he fails to return to collect it for several days, **hotel manager alerts police**
- Mutaahar is **arrested on May 4 under provisions of Arms Act**

▶ No criminal history, P 5

UP's Banda tops heat chart again, sizzles at 48.2°C

Banda roasted at a blistering 48.2°C Tuesday, turning roads gooey and the afternoon air into a blast furnace. The drought-hit district in the Bundelkhand region has recorded Asia's highest temperature four times in the past month, report **Mohita Tewari & Mohsin Usmani**. Meteorologists attributed the extreme heat to fierce dry westerly winds from the Thar Desert, cloudless skies and relentless solar radiation. Geologists said weather alone is not the culprit. Banda has barely 3% green cover across roughly 105sqkm — lowest in Bundelkhand. P 22

▶ Peak power demand hits all-time high of 260.5GW, P 22



Bangalore Times

'AI can enhance things, but the soul of your music must belong to you'

ARMAN IHSR

COST-CORRECTION

Kamal forgoes private charters; switches to economy

Buzzstop

VENKAT PRABHU GIFTS ICONIC NUMBER PLATE FROM 'GOAT' TO 'VIJAY'

AI could kill all, warns Musk while he's building it too

A battle over motive

Elon's legal team against the world

Many brakes on way: New QR code ticketing system slows BMTC rides

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Bengaluru: Buses stopping on roadsides seem to have increased, but the reason is not traffic or route issues, but the new QR code ticketing system which seems to be slowing BMTC operations.

The pilot, which was launched a few weeks ago, issues tickets after the conductor enters the area details, generating a QR code on the electronic ticketing machines for payment.

Commuters said this new system is making them wait longer for tickets, especially during rush hours. Dhurv NK, who travels by bus from Mysuru Road to AGS Layout, said: "The machine-based system sometimes slows things down, especially when many passengers are boarding at busy stops. I have also noticed buses stopping before major stations so conductors can complete ticketing. Whether it is through QR stickers or directly on the ticketing machine does not matter much to me, but the process should be quick and convenient. Earlier, scanning the QR sticker and showing the screenshot felt faster, especially during rush hours."

TOI

STARTING TROUBLE: Tickets are issued after the conductor enters the area details, generating a QR code on the machines

Amogh A, 23-year-old regular BMTC commuter, said: "The issue is more visible on low-frequency routes like V37 from Srinagar to Shivajinagar, where buses are packed in the evenings. Earlier, commuters could scan the static QR code in advance and quickly get tickets, but now conductors have to wait for each payment confirmation before issuing the next ticket, causing delays and longer stops. While the system helps reduce fake transactions, the process is time-consuming."

NV Raju, a resident of Kodigehalli, said: "As a senior citizen who frequently travels in BMTC buses, I find QR code payments difficult while the bus is on the move. It takes time to know the fare, scan and complete payment, and often conductors are in a hurry and unable to assist or wait. Hope conductors are sensitised to senior citizens and passengers who may need a little more time with digital payments."

Meanwhile, conductors say the QR code has to be generated on the machine each time, causing delays and increasing stoppage time at bus stands. A conductor with 10 years of experience said: "We were given the new systems last week, and already they are causing inconvenience. I was on duty on Kanakapura Road and NICE Road services, where issuing tickets through individual QR codes is becoming difficult. Earlier, if four or five people were travelling to the same place, we could issue tickets together in one transaction, but now that is not possible. It is still the holiday season and not many students are using the service, but once colleges reopen, it will surely create chaos."

Another conductor, who has been in service for five years, said: "The new feature has both perks and drawbacks. But the positive aspect is transparency in payments. We have seen many cases where people used fake or edited screenshots without actually paying. In such cases, the difference would be deducted from our salary. With this system, such situations cannot happen. We also have to be quick in printing tickets as there are multiple checkpoints, including Shantinagar, Banashankari and Jayanagar. However, with this, it is no longer entirely dependent on us."

However, officials said the issues were part of the initial transition phase and would stabilise as staff become familiar with the upgraded system.

Longest Vajra Vistara AC route launched, linking B'luru to T'kuru

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: At a time when home minister G Parameshwara is advocating renaming of Tumakuru Bengaluru North District due to its proximity to the state capital, Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has already included Tumakuru within the scope of its operations.

After expanding city bus services to suburban regions such as Kanakapura, Ramanagara and Channapatna, BMTC has introduced Vajra Vistara AC bus services to Tumakuru, situated about 70km from the city. With this addition, the Tumakuru route has become the longest route operated by the corporation.

An official said Vajra Vistara services have been introduced to Tumakuru based on public demand. Initially, 10 AC (Volvo) buses will ply on route number V EX TMK – 1 and the fare has been fixed at Rs 120. Every day, these buses will make 54 trips on the route, with a frequency of 20 minutes. On Tuesday, chief minister Siddaramaiah flagged off the new service at Tumakuru.

NEW ADDITION TO MEET PUBLIC DEMAND

Bengaluru-Tumakuru route buses will halt at Navarang, Govardhana Theatre, Goraguntepalya, Jalahalli Cross, T Dasarahalli, 8th Mile, Widia Stop and Kyathasandra.

"At present, KSRTC is operating inter-district services connecting Tumakuru and Bengaluru. We had conveyed to KSRTC that there are increasing demands from passengers for AC bus services. KSRTC conveyed to BMTC that we can extend Vajra Vistara AC services to Tumakuru. These services will not compete with existing non-AC services of KSRTC as we have limited stops and majority of them fall within Bengaluru limits," the BMTC official said.

CBSE third language rule: Schools, parents fear abrupt academic shift

Association Plans To Move Court

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Bengaluru: CBSE's latest directive mandating an Indian language as the third language from class 9 has opened a Pandora's box for schools and parents in Bengaluru, triggering confusion, anxiety and a frantic scramble to manage the fallout of the sudden academic shift.

Calling the move abrupt and impractical, the Management of Independent CBSE Schools' Association is exploring legal options and discussing the possibility of challenging the directive in court.

Schools that have long offered foreign languages as third-language choices now find themselves in a difficult position. Hundreds of students in classes 9 and 10 may be forced to switch midway to an Indian language, raising fears over academic disruption, adjustment challenges and the impact on board exam preparation.

"We plan to hold a meeting with parents Saturday, before the reopening, to make them aware of the changes. We have 27 children in German and 30 in French. We'll have to draw plans to help them out, with extra work, additional periods, etc. I wish this change came from the lower classes. In classes 9 and 10, the children have already gone through a process and should be allowed to complete it. It should have been a bottom-top approach, starting from lower grades," said Deepa Sridhar, director of Sri Kumaran Children's Home Educational Council.

Things are not easy for those who are offering only Indian languages either. "Classes are starting next week. We have already prepared the timetable. Teachers are appointed, their workload is determined. And now, they drop the bomb. The minute you touch the timetable at one point, it will come crashing. What's the need for an amendment when the secondary school curriculum that was released in April states that R3 is optional for classes 7-10," asked a principal of a prominent chain of schools.

Srinivasan M, president of MICSA and chairman of GEAR Foundation, said: "This is very unthoughtful and irrational from the part of CBSE. We will come out with a detailed plan to counter it and are most likely to challenge it in court."

"Parents are getting shocked at the news. How can you ask any child in class 9 to start learning a new language, a fourth one at that? We have more than 50 students studying French. The Supreme Court has already said that it is a child's prerogative to decide what language he or she can pick," he added.

Another principal pointed out that textbooks have to be freshly ordered. "Classes are starting next week. How are we supposed to start them? CBSE thinks only of the academic calendar of schools in North India," he said. Mansoor Ali Khan, member, board of management, Delhi Public Schools, said CBSE has not consulted with any school before making the decision. "We are now living in a global world. It is important that children know global languages. How can we become narrow-minded? With Bengaluru being a city with metropolitan culture, we get students from different states and countries. How can we restrict them to take only a few languages?" he asked.

Pic for representation

> My son is in grade nine now. He has French and Kannada as languages. Now, he has to start a new language, a new script altogether at a time when he should be focusing on the subjects he likes. Maths and science are his forte. This is going to be a nightmare. We are even thinking of changing the board, so that he can focus on the languages he wants to learn. There has been no thought given to implementation of this decision. They have no books, are there enough teachers?
> **Roopa Thomas** | A PARENT

What does circular say

From July 1, 2026, the study of three languages (R1, R2, R3) will be compulsory for class IX students, with at least two being native Indian languages. Students who wish to study a foreign language may do so as the third language only if the other two languages are native Indian ones, or as an additional fourth language."

Till the dedicated R3 textbooks are available, class IX students shall use the class VI R3 textbooks (2026-27 edition).

Schools facing constraints in the availability of adequately qualified native Indian language teachers may, as an interim arrangement for R3 language, engage existing teachers of other subjects who possess functional proficiency in the native Indian language.

No board examination shall be conducted for R3 at the class X level. All assessments for R3 shall be entirely school-based and internal. The performance of students in R3 will be reflected in the CBSE certificate.

Pharmacies shut today to protest online delivery

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Around 6,600 pharmacies, under Bengaluru Pharma Retailer and Distributors' Forum (BPRDF), will shut shop Wednesday as part of a nationwide strike called by All-India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD) against e-pharmacies and doorstep medicine-delivery platforms.

"We want govt to withdraw GSR 817(E), which permitted doorstep delivery of medicines during Covid when people couldn't step out of their homes. But it has now been four years since the pandemic ended and the system still continues, affecting regular retail pharmacies. E-pharmacies are also offering huge discounts in violation of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) norms. Our repeated complaints to govt over the years have gone in vain," said S Raghunath Reddy, president of BPRDF.

Around 26,000 pharmacies under Karnataka State Chemists' and Druggists' Association (KSCDA) will also support the strike. However, thousands of pharmacies under Karnataka Pharma Retailers' and Distributors' Organisation (KPRDO) will remain open and extend support by sporting black bands. Pharmacies attached to hospitals will also stay open.

Petitioners: Strike call illegal

▶ Continued from page 1

We have taken a decision to revise salary and initiated measures to pay arrears of 26 months. Despite this, they had called for a strike. We will obey the court order," he said.

Earlier in the day, a vacation division bench of Justices Suraj Govindaraj and K Manmadha Rao passed the interim order after hearing a PIL filed by C Vedavathi, a homemaker, and HV Sreedhara, a construction worker, both from Bengaluru.

The petitioners submitted that the strike would impact daily commuters and students taking SSLC examination.

The petitioners claimed the strike call was illegal under Karnataka Essential Services Maintenance (Amendment) Act and Industrial Disputes Act. There is no statutory or legal right to strike for employees of statutory corporations performing essential public services, they further added.

BMTC driver abused, 1 of 3 accused held

Bengaluru: Hulimavu police arrested one of the three accused, **Abdul Shoaib**, involved in the assault on a BMTC bus driver during a road-rage incident near Gottigere on Bannerghatta Main Road. The incident, which was caught on camera and widely circulated on social media, triggered public outrage.

According to police, the incident took place on May 12 around 2.30pm when a BMTC bus travelling from Banashankari to Bannerghatta was allegedly intercepted by three men riding a bike over an overtaking dispute. The accused blocked the bus in the middle of the road, abused the driver in filthy language and threatened him while brandishing deadly weapons before assaulting him in public view.

Following the viral video on X, Hulimavu police registered a suo motu case on May 17 under charges of attempt to murder and wrongful restraint, and on the same day, they arrested Shoaib, 26, a mechanic, near Tippu Circle in Bilwaradahalli.

Police seized a spanner used in the assault along with the bike used in the crime. Shoaib has been remanded in judicial custody. Efforts are on to nab the two accused. TNN

Confused about next edu course? Figure out at Mission Admission

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The Times of India's Mission Admission, Bengaluru's biggest higher education seminar and expo, returns with its 2026 edition Saturday, May 23, at Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Ambedkar Veedhi, Gandhinagar, from 10.30am to 4pm.

Designed as a one-stop guidance platform for students and parents, Mission Admission helps students and families make informed decisions on courses, colleges and careers after class 12.

The day-long event will bring together academic experts, counsellors, institutions and industry leaders to decode the many choices available to students as they step into higher education.

This year's edition will feature focused sessions on counselling guidance from the authorities on CET, ComedK and and NEET state quota seats, giving students and parents clarity on admission processes, seat selection and career pathways.

A key highlight will be panel discussions on both engineering and non-engineering courses, featuring some of Bengaluru's top academic voices and industry experts. Entry is free.

Webinar on careers in allied health sciences

Ahead of the main event, **TOI** will host a Mission Admission webinar today (May 20) in association with Manipal Academy of Higher Education, titled Future-ready careers in allied health sciences.

The session will feature Dr Sharan Shivaraj Patil, chairman and chief orthopaedic surgeon, Sparsh Hospital, and G Arun Maiya, professor and dean, Manipal College of Health Professions, who will share insights on courses and careers in physiotherapy, respiratory therapy, clinical psychology and allied fields.

The webinar will be live on **TOI** Bengaluru's Facebook page from 12pm to 1pm. To watch it live or set a reminder, scan the QR code.

Manyata Tech Park flooding: Drain work 60% complete, companies given time till May-end

File photo

Officials said the flooding was largely caused by a compound wall allegedly disrupting the natural flow of rainwater into the drain

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Bengaluru: After multiple interventions by Bengaluru North City Corporation (BNCC), stormwater drain work aimed at solving the long-standing flooding issue at Manyata Tech Park is now around 60% complete. The corporation has given the companies involved time till the end of May to complete construction before the onset of monsoon.

With every spell of rain, flooding in the park has made headlines over the last few years, with waterlogging first occurring inside the tech park campus before spilling onto the busy Outer Ring Road (ORR) stretch outside. Even on Monday, flooding was reported inside sections of the tech park.

Officials said the flooding was largely caused by a compound wall allegedly disrupting the natural flow of rainwater into the drain network. To address this, the corporation instructed three private properties to jointly construct an alternative drain. Since the area falls under the jurisdiction of Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB), a joint inspection involving the revenue department, KIADB, GBA and civic officials was conducted. Authorities initiated the construction of two parallel drains spanning a combined alignment of 1.57 km to divert excess water from Manyata Tech Park towards Hebbal Main Valley drain system.

According to BNCC documents accessed by **TOI**, the first drain package — stretching 622 metres from ORR service road to Hebbal Main Valley between Manyata and Karle property — is under construction. Officials said 277 metres of RCC drain work has been completed, 345 metres of temporary kaccha drain has been executed.

The second drain connection — extending 639.6 metres from Ebisu Junction to Hebbal Main Valley via Manyata Road — is nearing completion.

There was initial resistance from Manyata Tech Park towards participating in the drain construction jointly with the other two stakeholders — Manfo Convention Centre and Ebisu Tech Park. However, in larger public interest, negotiations were held on the issue and later stakeholders came on board and work was initiated.

BNCC commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar said: "It was not an easy job initially to get them to start the drain work. After multiple meetings with the companies, we managed to bring them on board. They all have now agreed and the work has been happening for months now."

Officials said as of now, the temporary *kaccha* drains are ready while structural curing works are under way. By the end of the month, the permanent *pucca* drains are expected to be completed.

'Alternative plan ready'

Commissioner Sunil Kumar said BNCC has also prepared an emergency plan in case of heavy rain before the drain work is completed. Portions of the existing compound wall may be demolished temporarily to allow rainwater into the newly-created *kaccha* drains. "On Monday, there was not much rain and it was clear that the tech park had slight flooding and the Ring Road was fine. As of now, water is not allowed into the under-construction drain, which is blocked by the wall so that they can continue the drain construction work," he said.

The recurring flooding issue at Manyata Tech Park also drew the attention of the Lokayukta, which took up a suo motu case.

Lokayukta Justice BS Patil and Upa Lokayuktas inspected the drain passing through Manyata Tech Park to assess the situation. The intervention had added pressure on the authorities to arrive at a long-term solution.

STRUCTURES TO BE BARRICADED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Underpasses prone to floods get water-level indicators

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: With monsoon expected to arrive next month, BNCC has rolled out a simple but potentially life-saving measure to prevent flood-related accidents at underpasses across the city.

Citizens approaching flood-prone underpasses during heavy rain will now be able to gauge whether it is safe to enter based on newly painted water-level indicators and warning messages.

As part of its monsoon-preparedness drive, BNCC has begun painting water-level markings at underpasses under its jurisdiction, indicating flood levels from one foot to four feet, alongside safety instructions for both motorists and pedestrians. Water levels above two feet have been marked as danger zone.

The warning reads: "When water level reaches designated danger mark, the underpass shall be deemed unsafe and unfit for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. In case of emergency, contact Bengaluru North City Corporation."

The initiative comes as civic authorities acknowledge that major structural changes to existing underpasses are difficult, particularly with rains round the corner. While drain cleaning and stormwater maintenance is still on, officials believe timely awareness could help avoid tragedies.

TOI

WATCH OUT: Of 33 underpasses, 28 have been identified as flood-prone by the corporation

In 2023, a software professional lost her life after being trapped in a flooded underpass near KR Circle.

According to BNCC data, the civic body has 33 underpasses within its jurisdiction, of which 28 are identified as flood-prone. Painting work has been completed at 10 and work is underway at two.

BNCC commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar said the markings are meant to function as an immediate warning system for commuters: "Once water reaches the red mark, traffic police can start barricading the underpass and prevent vehicles from entering."

Power line snaps, kills 7-yr-old boy

A seven-year-old boy was electrocuted after a power line snapped and fell on him during heavy rain in Kolar, 65km from Bengaluru, Monday night.

Shaik Takayur Rahaman was standing outside his relative's house in Poolsha Mohalla at 10pm when tragedy struck. Residents said the intense rainfall and strong winds caused power lines to snap in several places.

Takayur was the son of Shaik Imtiaz, a hotel assistant, and lived with his family in the Mohalla.

According to SI Syed Khasim, resident had noticed sparks emanating from overhead wires nearly two weeks ago and lodged complaints with Bescom officials seeking immediate repairs. But nothing was done. TNN

Panel warns medical colleges against charging excess fees

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The Admission Overseeing Committee (AOC), headed by Justice (retd) Ramachandra D Huddar, warned private medical colleges in Karnataka against collecting additional and unauthorised fees from students during undergraduate and postgraduate admissions.

In a note issued Tuesday, the committee said it received complaints that some medical colleges were demanding university fees directly from students despite Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) already remitting the amount to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) during seat allotment.

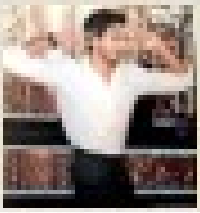
The committee also flagged complaints of colleges collecting caution money deposits and other fees that are allegedly not permitted under the consensual agreement signed between state govt and private medical colleges. These colleges are permitted to collect only a skill lab fee of Rs 30,000 and miscellaneous fee of Rs 15,000.

Where to complain

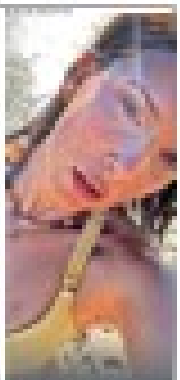
Affected students were told to contact chairman, Admission Overseeing Committee, KEA building, 18th Cross, Sampige Road, Bengaluru-12. Call 080-23466844 or email aoc.kea@gmail.com

WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY

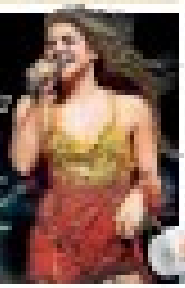
Angelina Jolie's daughter Zahara drops Brad Pitt's last name at graduation



Latest role for Ishaan? Honorary member of the 40-Crore mess



Did Millie Bobby Brown just reveal her baby's name?

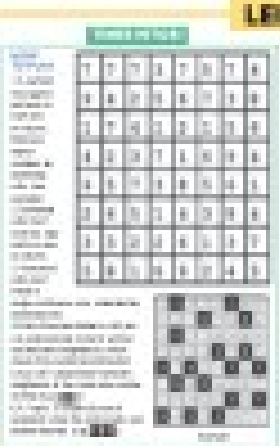


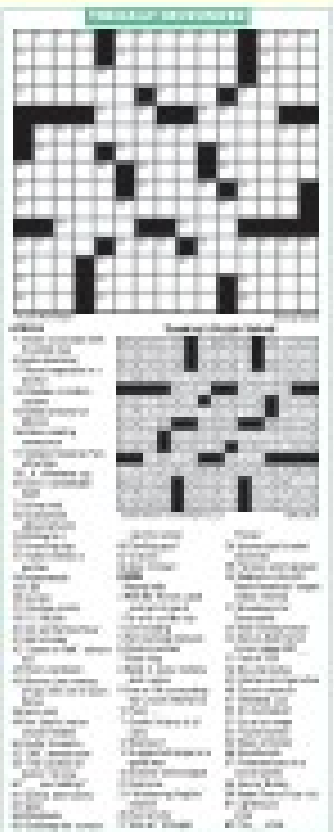
Shakira acquitted of tax fraud, court orders Spain to hand back $70 million

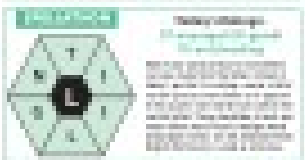
The deadly cost of getting too close to wildlife

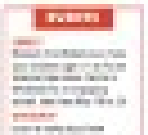
POV

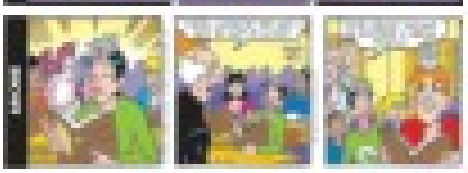
LEISURE

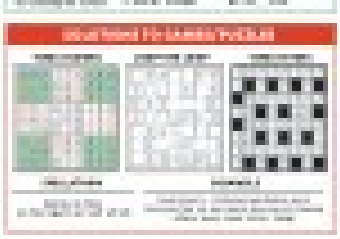












Behind jumbo's death: 7 deep wounds, 70-litre blood loss, night-long trauma

Harrowing Night Leaves Handlers @Dubare Shaken

Niranjan.Kaggere@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: The violent clash between two elephants at Dubare elephant camp in Kodagu lasted a few minutes Monday. However, for 53-year-old makhna (no-tusk) elephant Marthanda, the aftermath was an agonising battle that ended in death within 24 hours. The incident triggered panic at the camp and left even seasoned handlers shaken.

As chaos unfolded along the banks of Cauvery river, foresters and camp personnel rushed to pull the severely injured elephant out of the water. Bleeding from multiple stab wounds, Marthanda staggered as officials struggled to move him to safety. While the autopsy report is awaited, preliminary findings indicate he died of severe thoracic and abdominal trauma resulting in massive internal haemorrhage and hypovolaemic (low volume of blood) shock.

Officials said the muddy and turbid waters had turned dark red from the profuse bleeding suffered by Marthanda and also from the woman tourist trapped underneath the collapsed elephant. Dragging the jumbo to safer ground, veterinarians began emergency treatment. By night, Marthanda's condition deteriorated. Foresters thought the elephant had three injuries. On close examination, they discovered seven deep stab wounds, besides severe injuries to the ears, reproductive organs and lower abdomen.

According to veterinarians, elephants carry blood volume equivalent to 10% of their body weight. Forest minister Eshwar Khandre said Marthanda, weighing 4,500kg, is estimated to have had 350 litres of blood in his body. Veterinarians estimated the jumbo lost nearly 70 to 75 litres of blood — close to 20%.

Officials said veterinarians who first assessed Marthanda warned his chances of survival were "50:50" and sought 24 hours to understand the extent of internal trauma. "The wounds were so deep veterinarians could insert their entire arm inside. Some injuries measured 4-5ft in depth," a junior forest officer said.

According to officials, one of the deep abdominal wounds had ruptured portions of the intestine, besides severely damaging the bladder and stomach, resulting in massive haemorrhage. "Until early Tuesday, Marthanda could stand. By 8am, he collapsed and died within hours," an officer from Kodagu said.

Officials said veterinarians continued administering fluids and antibiotics through the night. Even experienced forest staff described Marthanda's final hours as deeply distressing. For many personnel at Dubare, the tragedy was not merely the death of a camp elephant, but the haunting sight of a giant animal enduring pain through an entire night before succumbing to shock and internal bleeding.

Pics: TOI

THE PADDY RAIDER

Marthanda **(in pic)** was once one of Karnataka's most infamous conflict elephants, feared across Hassan district as the "paddy raider." Like Kerala's famed rice-loving tusker Arikomban, Marthanda was known for raiding villages in Sakleshpur, breaking open doors and windows of houses in search of stored paddy and grain.

The 4,500kg jumbo was first captured near Karegarje in Belur taluk of Hassan on June 29, 2022, following repeated incidents of crop raiding and human-animal conflict. After being fitted with a radio collar, the jumbo was released into Bandipur forests. But within weeks, he travelled hundreds of kilometres back to Hassan and resumed raiding villages. He was captured again on May 19, 2023, near a coffee plantation at Ossur in Sakleshpur taluk, and later trained at Dubare.

K'taka may follow TN elephant camp model

SAFE DISTANCE
At Theppakadu elephant camp on the banks of river Moyar, visitors are allowed only twice a day to observe feeding sessions from a distance, while mahouts and caretakers handle & feed the animals

Niranjan.Kaggere@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: After the Dubare camp tragedy in which a woman tourist and an elephant died in 24 hours, Karnataka forest department has started drafting a comprehensive standard operating procedure (SOP) based on best practices in India and abroad to improve visitor safety and elephant management.

Forest department sources said they are closely studying the century-old Theppakadu elephant camp on the banks of river Moyar inside Mudumalai National Park in Tamil Nadu. At Theppakadu, visitors are allowed only twice a day to observe elephant feeding sessions from a designated distance, while mahouts and caretakers exclusively handle and feed the animals. Forest minister Eshwar Khandre said Karnataka is seriously considering adopting similar practices at some, if not all, of the state's 14 elephant camps.

Khandre told **TOI** on Tuesday: "Visitors at Theppakadu are permitted at designated hours. They can watch food preparation and feeding of elephants by the mahouts in the presence of senior officials from a safe distance divided by barricades. Also, this has been hailed as one of the best and safest methods."

This comes a day after the forest department imposed restrictions on tourist interaction with captive elephants in Karnataka camps.

For now, Kanjan left in isolation at Dubare camp

▶ Continued from page 1

A postmortem is being conducted to ascertain the exact cause of death. The camp, which was shut immediately after the gruesome incident, will remain closed Wednesday as well. Kanjan, a Mysuru Dasara jumbo, has been temporarily placed in isolation at the Kushalnagar elephant camp.

Jinsu, 33, who was crushed to death at the elephant camp, was a resident of Pallavaram in Chennai. Her husband Joel and their five-year-old daughter Jersey escaped with minor injuries in the chaos that unfolded following Kanjan's attack on Marthanda, while visitors were bathing the jumbos.

Jinsu and her family, along with several others, were near Marthanda, ready to splash water on the jumbo when disaster struck. A video clip of the incident, recorded by bystanders, showed the woman's husband holding the child and attempting to rescue her, but in vain. At Dubare elephant camp, tourists are allowed to touch, scrub, bathe and feed the jumbos.

Paralysed man duped of ₹30L in trading scam

Chaithanya.Swamy@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: A 52-year-old paralysed man lost Rs 30.6 lakh to cybercrooks who lured him through a WhatsApp trading group named 'Wealth Accelerator' between Jan 9 and May 1.

The victim, Aravind from Ramamurthynagar, held a top post at a private firm. According to the complaint filed by his son with East Crime police on May 16, Aravind has been bedridden since July 2024. On Jan 9, he was added to a WhatsApp group, where fraudsters claimed to teach share market trading and research techniques. Initially, the group regularly shared stock market trends, trading tips and predictions about stocks expected to rise.

Gaining his trust, the fraudsters later introduced themselves as representatives of a company called 'Falcon Globe Trading, USA'. Hoping to earn money for his medical expenses and his daughter's marriage, he believed them when they circulated fake Sebi registration documents.

He downloaded an application provided by the crooks and initially invested in short-term trades. The app displayed attractive profits in his account, making him believe the trading was genuine.

The fraudsters then persuaded him to invest in a so-called PayPal IPO in the US market, promising returns of over 200%. The app even showed bonus shares and fake profits, further boosting his confidence.

Later, the scammers introduced another IPO named PLAI and allegedly convinced him to apply for 8,000 shares. Days later, informing him that 16,000 shares had been allotted, they demanded Rs 60 lakh to complete the purchase, promising 280% returns after listing. They allegedly asked him to transfer Rs 30 lakh first, assuring him they would arrange the remaining amount themselves. Aravind arranged the money through personal loans, pledging family gold, and borrowing from relatives and friends.

After the amount was transferred, the crooks allegedly demanded the remaining Rs 30 lakh. When Aravind requested cancellation of allotment and a refund of his money, they refused. Soon after, his account was blocked and both the mobile application and website stopped functioning. The fraudsters also allegedly stopped responding to calls and messages.

A senior officer said, "Aravind filed a complaint on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) on May 1, 2026. Based on his complaint, we have registered a case under the Information Technology Act and BNS Section 318 (cheating)."

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Consider plea on census duty, says HC

Bengaluru: The high court directed the authorities to consider the representation submitted by a 51-year-old govt employee, requesting her exemption from the ongoing census work on the basis of her medical condition.

The govt employee, KS Sharadamna, submitted two representations on April 8 and 10, requesting exemption from discharging duties as a census enumerator in connection with the ensuing Census 2027 phase 1 operation. As no response was forthcoming, she approached the high court.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum noted that the petitioner has placed reliance on a medical certificate issued by the competent authority in the district hospital, wherein the attending doctor has opined that she is medically unfit to stand for prolonged periods and is also unable to walk long distances. "The material on record prima facie indicates that the petitioner has placed sufficient medical evidence before the authorities seeking exemption or appropriate relief," the judge observed. TNN

Solar traction not easy for Blue Line: BMRCL

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL) officials have flagged technical and design hurdles in adopting full solar traction for the upcoming Blue Line, responding to an Indian Institute of Science (IISc) study proposing the corridor run entirely on solar power.

Addressing a seminar on the study Tuesday, BMRCL chief engineer (traction) Dodde Gowda said solar traction is not part of the detailed project report (DPR) under which the 55km Blue Line — connecting Central Silk Board and Kempegowda International Airport via Outer Ring Road — is being executed.

"Certain challenges have to be addressed before we conclude it," Gowda said, adding that rooftop solar capacity estimates would need reassessment based on feasibility and installation constraints. Drawing from earlier experience, he said vendor assessments have resulted in "drastic reductions" from initial projections.

Space limitations are also a concern, especially on the KR Pura–Central Silk Board stretch. Gowda said only four stations currently have earmarked space for solar equipment, while layouts for the remaining are already finalised and installations are underway to meet tight deadlines.

He noted BMRCL has already implemented solar initiatives on other corridors, including the Yellow Line and Green Line extension on Kanakapura Road.

On financing, Gowda said solar traction was not included in DPR costs and would require alternate funding models such as public-private partnerships. Private operators currently install and run solar systems for BMRCL and are paid for generation, but scaling the model for traction would need additional funds.

File photo

55KM LINE IN THE WORKS

From Oct, direct flights to Zurich 5 times a week

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Starting Oct, Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) will begin nonstop service between Bengaluru and Zurich five times a week, marking the carrier's entry into India's tech capital and adding a new European gateway for travellers from southern India.

The route makes Bengaluru the latest Indian city in the SWISS network, and the third Lufthansa Group destination from the city alongside the existing Frankfurt and Munich services. Every flight will offer First, Business and Economy Class cabins, with connections onward to Europe and North America through Zurich airport.

ALMANAC (20.5.2026)

Vrishabha Masa 5 – Shri Parabhava Nama Samvatsara – Uttarayana – Greeshma Ritu – Tithi: Adhika Jyeshtha Shukla Chaturthi h. 11-07 Nakshatra: Ardra h. 6-12 then Punarvasu h. 28-12 Yoga: Sula h. 14-10. 03 Zulhijja | Kali Day 1872715
Rahu Kalam Noon-1.30pm

— Vidya Shankara Somayaji

AEE held for bribery

Lokayukta police Tuesday trapped a Bescom assistant executive engineer while he was allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 50,000 to sanction additional power.

The accused AEE is Manojkumar B, 53, attached to Bescom, south division. His associate, Kantharaju, an electrical contractor, was also arrested. A press note from Lokayukta said Manojkumar had demanded Rs 50,000 to sanction an additional 25kW of power to a temporary meter in a building in west Bengaluru. TNN

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From chaos to control: How city cops managed RCB crowds this season

Manuja.Veerappa
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: As the Indian Premier League heads into the business end and the city leg of the 2026 tournament has concluded, it is hard to overlook how efficiently the home matches of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) were managed this season. The stadium remained the same, the police force largely unchanged and the fanbase only continued to grow. What changed was the approach — in perception, planning and preparation.

The stampede outside M Chinnaswamy Stadium on June 4 last year, during RCB's IPL victory celebrations, had claimed 11 lives and left an indelible scar on the city's sporting landscape. The tragedy served as a massive wake-up call for all stakeholders involved. In that context, the five matches hosted by RCB at the venue this season stood out as examples of more structured and coordinated crowd management.

The transformation did not happen overnight. It was the result of months of planning, review and collaboration between police, civic authorities, Karnataka State Cricket Association and the franchise.

> When the last ball of IPL 2026 was bowled at Chinnaswamy Stadium, all 32,000 people walked out safely in 30 minutes. It is the only scoreboard that mattered to us
> **Vamsi Krishna** | JOINT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE (WEST)

File photo

Speaking at the RCB Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit Monday, Bengaluru's top police officers, led by commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, reflected on the extensive groundwork that went into ensuring cricket could safely return to the stadium after a govt-appointed committee had deemed the venue unsafe for hosting matches in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy.

"It was a challenge to bring the stadium back to normalcy because the expectations of sports lovers and enthusiasts in Bengaluru are huge. So to balance this while ensuring safety was the biggest challenge. We took it up and interacted with all the stakeholders, who were many and diverse," Singh said. "Crowd management — not only during matches, but also for practice sessions, hotel stays, and transportation — was carefully planned. We told fans that if they had tickets, they should come to the stadium. If they did not, they should enjoy the match wherever they were."

Vamsi Krishna, joint commissioner (west), in his presentation, highlighted how technology was used in effective management and helped save time. For example, the time taken for the team bus to enter from the main gate was 2 minutes and 40 seconds last year; it was down to 49 seconds this year.

On signage & rehearsals

Even signage was redesigned. Volunteers carrying mobile signage boards proved more effective than fixed signs because they could move dynamically depending on crowd movement. All police personnel, private security staff, and civil defence teams underwent extensive rehearsals. Three rounds of full-scale drills were conducted where police personnel themselves simulated spectators to identify operational gaps," Krishna added.

Unlike in the past, police also assessed the behavioural patterns of fans. "Understanding the crowd's composition, behaviour, mood and purpose is extremely important. Apart from the 32,000 spectators, there would always be an additional 10,000 to 20,000 people around the stadium — vendors, bystanders, onlookers and others... Fan behaviour changes depending on whether their favourite team wins, especially against rivals," he explained.

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Bengaluru Times LIFE & STYLE

Believe it or not

It certainly looks like the Pope digs the drip

THE TIMES OF INDIA

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Dr. Gaurav Sharma
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Ortho Cure Clinic,
Bengaluru

Movement: The most powerful therapy

A common misconception among individuals experiencing joint pain is the belief that complete rest is the best solution. While short periods of rest may provide temporary relief during episodes of discomfort, prolonged inactivity can actually worsen joint stiffness, reduce flexibility and weaken the muscles that support the joints. Over time, lack of movement can gradually decrease mobility and make routine activities increasingly difficult. Movement, when performed correctly and consistently, remains one of the most effective ways to maintain long-term joint health and overall physical function.

Regular physical activity plays an essential role in keeping joints healthy and functional. Movement helps lubricate joints naturally, improves circulation and strengthens the muscles surrounding the joints, which provide important support and stability. Stronger muscles reduce stress on the joints during daily activities such as walking, climbing stairs, bending and standing for long periods. Physical activity also improves coordination and balance, helping individuals move more confidently and comfortably.

The key, however, lies in choosing the right type of movement. High-impact activities may place unnecessary strain on painful joints, particularly in individuals with arthritis or chronic joint conditions. Low-impact exercises such as walking, swimming, cycling, stretching and guided strengthening exercises are often considered highly beneficial because they support mobility while minimising stress on the joints. These activities help maintain flexibility, improve endurance and support healthier movement patterns.

Equally important is consistency. It is not necessary to engage in intense workouts or physically demanding exercise routines to experience the benefits of movement. Moderate and regular activity often produces better long-term outcomes than occasional high-intensity exercise. Simple habits such as taking short walks, stretching regularly or staying physically active throughout the day can make a meaningful difference over time.

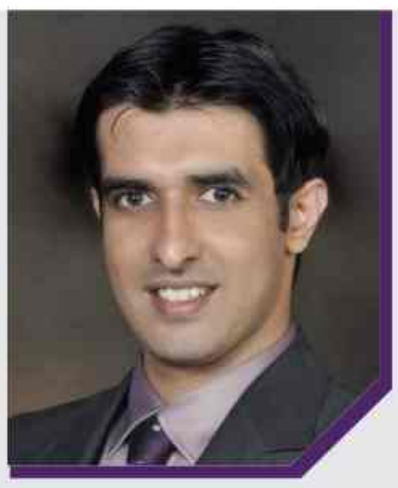
Structured physiotherapy programs can further help individuals adopt safe and effective exercise routines suited to their age, condition and physical capabilities. Physiotherapists can guide patients on posture correction, strengthening exercises and movement techniques that reduce stress on the joints while improving mobility. Over time, consistent movement can improve joint resilience, making everyday activities easier and less painful.

Movement also plays a significant role in maintaining a healthy body weight, which is another important factor in protecting joint health. Excess body weight places increased pressure on weight-bearing joints such as the knees, hips and spine. Regular physical activity helps reduce this stress while improving overall strength and endurance.

Beyond physical benefits, movement has a positive impact on mental well-being. Staying active helps improve mood, reduce stress and support emotional health, all of which are important when managing chronic pain or long-term joint conditions. Improved circulation, better sleep and increased energy levels are additional benefits commonly associated with regular activity.

Modern lifestyles often involve long hours of sitting, reduced physical activity and poor posture, all of which can gradually contribute to joint stiffness and muscle weakness. Incorporating movement into daily routines is therefore more important than ever. Taking regular movement breaks, avoiding prolonged sitting and maintaining an active lifestyle can help preserve flexibility and support healthier joints over time.

Understanding that movement is not the enemy, but rather a powerful form of therapy, can transform the way individuals approach joint care. With regular movement, guided exercise and healthy daily habits, many people can significantly improve mobility, reduce discomfort and maintain an active, independent and fulfilling quality of life for years to come.



Dr. Ravikiran Bhat
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Prakash Clinic,
Bengaluru

Can knee surgery be postponed in osteoarthritis?

One of the most common questions patients ask is whether knee surgery can be delayed in osteoarthritis. The honest answer is that while lifestyle changes, medications and physiotherapy can help manage symptoms in the earlier stages, advanced osteoarthritis eventually reaches a point where surgery becomes the most effective and reliable solution for restoring mobility and reducing pain.

Osteoarthritis is a progressive condition in which the protective cartilage within the knee joint gradually wears away. As this cushioning reduces, bones begin to rub against each other, leading to pain, stiffness, swelling and difficulty in movement. In the beginning, many patients are able to manage symptoms with weight reduction, exercise, muscle strengthening, physiotherapy, activity modification and medications. These measures are important because they help reduce stress on the joints and improve overall joint function.

However, when osteoarthritis becomes severe, daily activities such as walking, climbing stairs, getting up from a chair or even sleeping comfortably may become difficult. At this stage, patients often start depending heavily on pain medications while reducing their physical activity due to discomfort. Unfortunately, avoiding movement can weaken muscles further and worsen mobility over time.

There is also a widespread fear surrounding knee replacement surgery. Many patients worry that surgery may lead to stiffness, instability or difficulty in walking naturally after the procedure. Much of this fear comes from stories shared by others, often based on older surgical methods or individual experiences that may not reflect current advancements in orthopaedic care.

Another important concern among patients is the belief that surgery should be avoided for as long as possible. While delaying surgery may sometimes be appropriate in the earlier stages, postponing it for too long in advanced osteoarthritis can lead to increasing deformity, worsening pain and significant reduction in mobility. Chronic pain may also affect sleep, emotional well being and overall quality of life. Many patients gradually stop participating in social activities or physical movement because of constant discomfort.

Today, modern surgical approaches have significantly improved outcomes and recovery. One such advancement is Natural Knee Replacement. Unlike traditional methods that position the knee in a fixed mechanical alignment, this approach is designed to match the patient's own natural bone anatomy and joint alignment as closely as possible. The objective is not only to replace damaged cartilage but also to restore the natural balance and movement pattern of the knee joint.

This approach minimises unnecessary soft tissue release and often uses muscle preserving techniques such as the subvastus approach. By protecting important muscles around the knee, patients may experience less pain after surgery, faster recovery, improved stability and greater confidence while walking and performing daily activities.

Advancements in rehabilitation and physiotherapy have also improved recovery after knee replacement surgery. Early mobilisation, guided exercises and structured rehabilitation programs help patients regain strength, flexibility and confidence more effectively than before. Many individuals are now able to return to walking, travelling and performing daily activities with far less discomfort.

Natural Knee Replacement is generally considered for patients with advanced osteoarthritis where cartilage is severely damaged and conservative treatments no longer provide adequate relief. When pain begins to limit independence and quality of life, surgery can help patients regain mobility and return to a more active lifestyle.

Knee replacement today is not simply about replacing a joint. It is about helping patients move comfortably, regain confidence and improve their overall quality of life. Fear should not decide the future of your movement.

Dr. Abheejith
Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Ashraya Hospital,
Bengaluru

Take control of arthritis, take back your life

Living with arthritis does not mean living in constant pain or giving up an active lifestyle. While arthritis is a long term condition that affects the joints, the right approach can help individuals manage symptoms effectively and continue to lead active, fulfilling and independent lives. The key lies in early diagnosis, timely treatment and consistent lifestyle adjustments that support long term joint health.

Arthritis often begins with mild symptoms such as occasional joint pain, stiffness, swelling or reduced flexibility. Many people notice discomfort while climbing stairs, getting up after sitting for long periods or performing routine movements. These early signs are frequently ignored or mistaken as a natural part of ageing or temporary strain. However, identifying the condition at an early stage allows for better management and helps prevent further joint damage. Consulting a doctor at the right time can make a significant difference in long term outcomes and mobility.

As arthritis progresses, pain and stiffness may gradually begin to affect daily activities and overall quality of life. Simple tasks such as walking, bending, lifting objects or even sleeping comfortably may become difficult. In many cases, individuals reduce their physical activity due to discomfort, but avoiding movement completely can weaken the muscles that support joints and worsen stiffness over time.

Another important aspect of arthritis management is understanding that every patient experiences the condition differently. Some individuals may develop symptoms slowly over many years, while others may notice faster progression depending on factors such as body weight, lifestyle, occupation, previous injuries or underlying inflammatory conditions. This is why personalised care and regular medical evaluation are important in managing joint health effectively.

Many people also hesitate to seek treatment because they believe arthritis is something they simply have to live with. However, modern orthopaedic care focuses not only on pain relief but also on preserving mobility, independence and overall quality of life. Early intervention often helps patients remain active and avoid severe joint damage in the future.

Treatment for arthritis is not limited to medication alone. A comprehensive management plan includes regular physical activity, weight management and exercises that strengthen the muscles around the joints. Gentle movements such as walking, stretching, cycling, swimming and guided physiotherapy help improve flexibility, maintain joint mobility and reduce stiffness. Staying active also supports circulation, improves balance and helps protect overall physical health.

Maintaining a healthy body weight is equally important because excess weight places additional pressure on weight bearing joints such as the knees, hips and spine. Even modest weight reduction can significantly reduce joint stress, improve comfort and support better movement. A balanced diet rich in calcium, Vitamin D, protein and anti inflammatory nutrients also helps support stronger bones and healthier joints.

Equally important is maintaining a balanced lifestyle. Adequate rest, proper posture, hydration and avoiding prolonged inactivity can support joint health and reduce discomfort. Small, consistent changes in daily habits often lead to meaningful improvements over time.

Modern treatment options for arthritis have also improved significantly. Depending on the condition and severity, treatment may include medications, physiotherapy, lifestyle modification, supportive therapies or advanced surgical options when necessary.

With the right care, arthritis can be effectively managed. Many people continue to work, travel, exercise and enjoy their daily activities without significant limitations. The goal is not only to reduce pain, but also to preserve independence, restore confidence and improve overall quality of life. Taking timely action today can help protect your movement and support healthier joints for the future.

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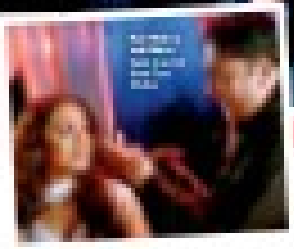
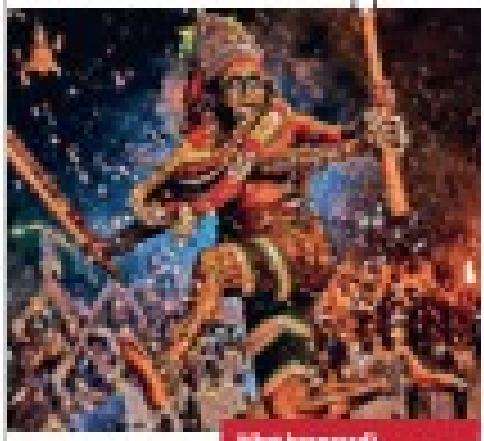
What you call virality today was called a superhit earlier: Adnan



Controversial dialogue on Raaja's copyright fight to be removed from Karuppu



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Guarantees have shielded citizens from Centre-induced inflation: CM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Marking three years in office, the Siddaramaiah-led Congress govt Tuesday used its 'Sadhana Samarpana' convention in Tumakuru to sharpen its attack on the opposition BJP and JD(S) while projecting its guarantees schemes as a governance model to be emulated ahead of the 2028 assembly elections.

At the event, where title deeds and benefits under social security schemes were distributed to citizens, CM Siddaramaiah and his deputy DK Shivakumar defended the guarantee schemes against criticism over rising expenditure, insisting they had protected families from inflation and economic distress triggered by the BJP-led Centre's "mis-governance".

SADHANA SAMARPANA

"Our guarantees have helped lakhs of people," Siddaramaiah said. "We spent Rs 1.4 lakh crore on the schemes in the past three years. Compare this with the BJP govt where rupee has gone down against the dollar and petrol and diesel prices have been hiked twice in a week."

He accused BJP of pursuing divisive politics and blamed the Union govt for unemployment, inflation, and issues surrounding the NEET examination process. "We do not practice revenge politics, and we provide governance that ensures peace," he said.

On NEET, he said: "The Centre rejected our suggestion to follow our CET model. It is solely responsible for several suicides and has it has affected 22 lakh students."

Shivakumar said Karnataka's guarantees have become a template for other states. "I read that they have become world renowned for its impact on the lives of the people, especially with skyrocketing inflation," he said. "They are the envy of most BJP-governed states. We believe it has given light to people amid darkness spread by BJP-sponsored inflation," he said.

Shivakumar added: "Such has been the success, that 5,000 new buses have been procured by the transport department to ensure that our mothers and sisters can travel in comfort and for free."

Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar used the convention to signal the party's preparations for the 2028 assembly polls.

"Our work is evidence of our commitment. Of the 592 promises in our manifesto, we have delivered over 250 of them. With two years left, we will provide even better governance which will encompass the core ideals of Congress party which is harmony, development and social justice," Siddaramaiah said.

ANI

FREE FOR ALL: Chief minister Siddaramaiah hands out benefits of welfare schemes as the govt marked three years in office with a celebration in Tumakuru on Tuesday

Tumakuru sets Guinness record

Tumakuru district secured a place in the Guinness Book of Records by distributing 1,52,492 title deeds in a single day on Tuesday. The mass distribution drive was part of the govt's 'Sadhana Samarpana' programme. Officials said more than 1 lakh regular title deeds, 20,666 title deeds linked to revenue villages and 25,826 podi-free title deeds were issued to beneficiaries.

DKS' late arrival sparks speculation

Deputy CM and Congress state president **DK Shivakumar** arrived over two hours late for the event, a delay that triggered speculation over whether he would skip the programme entirely amid a spat for the CM post. Shivakumar later revealed that he and wife **Usha** had visited Tirupati at 3am and offered prayers at Tirumala temple. "I previously planned this trip since the three-year commemoration event was originally scheduled for Wednesday," he said. He said he prayed for Karnataka to overcome its economic challenges and receive good rainfall.

Celebrating zero devpt: BJP

Opposition BJP criticised the govt over its three-year anniversary celebrations, alleging "zero development", rising debt and worsening law and order. State BJP chief BY Vijayendra questioned the basis for the celebrations, saying people were asking, "Celebrate what?" The party alleged pending payments for infrastructure works, stalled projects and an "empty treasury". Former CM BS Yediyurappa accused the govt of turning Karnataka into an "ATM for the high command". BJP also claimed riots, drug networks and criminal activities had increased, alleging even prisons had become "party hubs" for criminals.

3 TESTS GOVT FACES OVER NEXT 2 YEARS

CONCERN

The guarantee schemes brought relief to women, students and low-income families while strengthening its welfare driven political narrative. They boosted household savings and rural spending, but they also drew criticism over their long-term sustainability and impact on state finances. BJP has accused the govt of pushing Karnataka into financial distress, claiming the state's debt crossed Rs 8 lakh crore with fresh borrowings of Rs 1.5 lakh crore proposed in the 2025-26 budget. It alleged transport corporations and power utilities are under severe stress, with Escom dues touching Rs 42,750 crore.

CHALLENGE

Despite criticism that guarantees are hurting transport and power utilities, the govt has avoided altering the schemes fearing a political backlash. This has constrained finances and reduced fiscal flexibility. The govt now faces a massive task of balancing welfare commitments with visible development ahead of the 2028 elections. Over the next two years, it will come under pressure to roll out infrastructure projects, counter anti-incumbency and satisfy MLAs demanding constituency works. But slowing revenue growth, inflationary pressures and rising debt could complicate the situation.

Speculation over a possible change of CM has surfaced repeatedly. Deputy CM DK Shivakumar's supporters intensified demands for a transition as the govt approached the halfway mark of its tenure, and has kept up the pressure. Congress high command's reluctance to provide clarity has allowed uncertainty to persist, affecting governance and coordination within the govt. Many MLAs are also awaiting cabinet berths and continue to make frequent visits to Delhi.

Congress brass is now under pressure to ensure clarity on the issue. Functionaries believe an early decision could stabilise the administration and improve coordination between power centres. The high command will have to ensure that any move does not deepen factionalism between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar camps. The issue is also expected to shape Congress' strategy for the 2028 polls. The govt may need to drop tainted and non-performing ministers and induct new faces.

Congress came to the helm after aggressively targeting the previous BJP govt over alleged corruption through its PayCM campaign. But it now faces allegations that corruption in public offices remained widespread. Some ministers and officials also came under scrutiny over alleged irregularities. Simultaneously, concerns over law and order grew amid reports of murders, rapes, communal tensions, drug networks and rowdy activities. Signs of unease among sections of the Muslim community following the Davanagere bypoll and subsequent developments are added complications.

The govt must strengthen its anti-corruption image while restoring public confidence in law enforcement. Though the Lokayukta has carried out raids against officials, critics argue the agency lacks deterrent powers. Pressure will also mount to tackle murders, sexual crimes, organised rowdyism and the growing narcotics network, which has reportedly spread to rural educational institutions. The party will also have to manage rising expectations among minority communities and prevent dissatisfaction within traditional support bases from turning into a political liability.

— Manu Aiyappa Kanathanda

Kharge takes swipe at PM over falling ₹, price rise

Bengaluru: Congress president **Mallikarjun Kharge** Tuesday criticised PM Narendra Modi over rising prices of essential commodities and the weakening rupee, calling it a "clear economic failure" of the central govt.

He accused the Modi govt of failing to anticipate mounting global and domestic economic pressures, while alleging ordinary citizens were left to shoulder the burden of inflation.

"Prices of petrol, diesel and gas have been repeatedly hiked and now, fertiliser prices will rise," Kharge said. "Didn't Modiji foresee these developments? Did you (Modi) not give them any thought? On one hand, we are facing a world war-like situation and on the other, despite being fully aware of this, PM Modi says there is no problem in our country and everything is fine."

He also raised concerns over the falling rupee and warned that it could weaken further. "While the dollar remains stable, the rupee continues to plummet. Today, the rupee has depreciated significantly; within a day or two, the exchange rate could well hit 100."

He also questioned the effectiveness of Modi's overseas visits. "He says not to travel abroad, but he went to five countries. You (Modi) have now visited hundreds of countries, so tell us: What MoUs did you sign and how much investment has flowed into our country?" Kharge asked. TNN

Breakfast meet fuels CM change buzz

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Supporters of chief minister Siddaramaiah met over breakfast in Bengaluru Tuesday before the govt's Sadhana Samarpana event in Tumakuru, triggering fresh speculation over a possible change at the helm.

Ministers HC Mahadevappa, Satish Jarkiholi and BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan were among those who met at Jarkiholi's residence before travelling together to Tumakuru for the anniversary event. The meeting comes a day after former minister KN Rajanna hinted at a possible change and backed home minister G Parameshwara for the CM post if Siddaramaiah steps down.

Speaking in Tumakuru, Parameshwara thanked Rajanna for his support but said the decision rests with Congress' high command. "Rajanna is from my district and a friend. If not me, who else will he recommend? However, my job is to serve the people," Parameshwara said.

On Monday, Rajanna had said the party high command was considering a CM switch and "like-minded" functionaries were backing Parameshwara as a possible successor.

TOI

ONLY A MEAL: Senior ministers (seated from left) Satish Jarkiholi, HC Mahadevappa, K Venkatesh and BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan in Bengaluru, ahead of the Sadhana Samarpana event on Tuesday

Not a secret

But ministers who attended the breakfast meeting denied any political significance to the gathering. "It wasn't a secret meeting; we only had breakfast together," Zameer said. Jarkiholi also dismissed reports, saying they met to travel together "like schoolboys from a Kannada-medium school going on a trip".

On reports that some ministers and MLAs would go to Delhi, Jarkiholi said, "The high command may call the CM and DCM, not us. Rahul Gandhi will return to Delhi after a week. After that, he may call some senior functionaries."

Rename Tumakuru as B'luru North dist: HM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Tumakuru: Home minister G Parameshwara Tuesday urged deputy CM DK Shivakumar to consider renaming Tumakuru district as Bengaluru North, citing its proximity to the state capital.

During the event to mark the govt's three years in office, Parameshwara, also minister in charge of the district, said Tumakuru, located around 60km from Bengaluru, should also be brought under the Bengaluru identity. "Considering a similar decision was taken to rename Ramanagara as Bengaluru South, I urge the DCM to take a similar decision, so that people of Tumakur benefit from the Bengaluru name," he said. The decision to rename Ramanagara triggered a huge political debate since Shivakumar had personally pursued it.

Parameshwara also renewed demands to extend Namma Metro connectivity to Tumakuru. Referring to the feasibility study proposed in the 2025-26 state budget, he urged the govt to expedite the process. Shivakumar, also Bengaluru development minister, did not react to either demand.

Know Namma Karnataka?
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4 injured in quarry blast

Four labourers were injured, one critically, after dynamite used for rock blasting exploded accidentally near Kadirenahalli village in Tekal, Kolar district, Tuesday afternoon. The injured — Chiranjeevi, Ramu, Hemanth and Raj, natives of Koppal district — were engaged in quarry-blasting work, police said.

Sources said the quarry belongs to Hanumanthu of Kadirenahalli and was allegedly operated by Manjunath of Jangaanahalli. Police said the workers had placed explosives into two drilled holes in a boulder. While one dynamite detonated, the second failed to explode. The blast occurred when the workers tried to reignite the unexploded dynamite. TNN

Bullet in pants: Accused has no criminal history

▶Continued from page 1

He has no criminal antecedents and there is no indication that he was involved in any illegal activities. But bringing a loaded magazine into India is illegal," a police officer said.

Cops have since seized Mutaahar's passport, laptop and mobile phone as part of the probe. Officials have also written to the American embassy seeking details about him and the firearm licence he claimed to possess in the US.

Deputy commissioner of police for north division, BS Nemagoud, said the case took an unusual turn because it was Mutaahar himself who initially alerted the hotel employees about the forgotten magazine hidden beneath the cot.

"After leaving the hotel, he called the reception and informed them that he had left behind the magazine with bullets. Mutaahar said he would return in a day or two to collect it. But when he failed to turn up, the hotel staff panicked and handed over the magazine to the JC Nagar police station," Nemagoud explained.

Police later discovered that Mutaahar had arrived in Bengaluru in the second week of April and had been staying with his sister in RT Nagar. On April 27, for personal reasons, he checked into a hotel on JC Road in Jayamahal and vacated the room the following morning.

It was only when he did not return to collect the magazine did the hotel staff alert cops. Soon after, police summoned and arrested him under provisions of the Arms Act.

Student drowns in Nethravati river

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: A final-year engineering student drowned in Nethravati river Tuesday evening while spending time with friends near Kallagundi in Kalmanja village of Belthangady taluk. The victim is Shripoorna, 22.

According to sources, eight students from an engineering college in Ujire were swimming in the river and reportedly taking pictures. Shripoorna, a native of Gokak, is suspected to have slipped into the water and drowned.

Other students raised an alarm, prompting residents to rush to the spot.

Members of Sri Dharmasthala Shaurya Disaster Management Team, personnel from fire and emergency services and from Dharmasthala police station searched for over four hours in the river and recovered her body at 9.30pm.

Lift stops at mart, trapped occupants rescued

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Shivamogga: Nine people, including two children, were rescued after an elevator broke down due to a technical snag at a mart in Gopala, Shivamogga, Monday evening. Despite there being no power outage, the elevator ground to a halt and trapped the occupants inside due to a sudden technical failure.

According to officials, the rescued included seven adults and two children. While one woman briefly felt dizzy and exhausted during the ordeal, she recovered shortly after the rescue operations and was able to return home safely.

House where ex-prez lived lies in ruins

R Uday Kumar | TNN

Mysuru: The century-old bungalow where former President of India Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan once lived during his tenure as professor of philosophy at the University of Mysore, is once again in a state of neglect, raising concerns among academicians and those who appreciate heritage sites.

100-YEAR LEGACY

Located opposite Govt Printing Press in Saraswathipuram, the historic bungalow served as the residence of Radhakrishnan between 1918 and 1921, long before he became Vice President and later President of India. Though the building was restored in 2012 with financial support from late educationist Prof Doreswamy, founder of PES Educational Institutions, lack of regular maintenance has once again led to deterioration.

The century-old bungalow where former president of India Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan once resided, is in a state of disrepair

Prof NS Rangaraju, retired professor of ancient history and archaeology at UoM and former member of Mysuru district heritage committee, recalled the rich legacy associated with the bungalow, and said that noted botanist Narayan, who later served as the principal of Yuvaraja's College, stayed in the house after Radhakrishnan left Mysuru. Rangaraju, a resident of Mysuru, fondly remembered the lush gardens and a well-preserved structure of the bungalow during the 1960-70s.

Gradual neglect over the years has affected several historic buildings across the university campus, he said and added that the university has more than 20 heritage structures and requires a dedicated annual budget for their upkeep and preservation. He pointed out that during the tenure of vice-chancellor SN Hegde, special funds were earmarked every year for restoration and maintenance works. Savitha MK, registrar of the UoM, said only a small portion of the bungalow has been damaged due to tree roots and that the overall structure remains stable. She said archaeological department commissioner A Devaraja has assured support for preparing a DPR and initiating repair works at the earliest.

The university plans to raise funds for preserving and strengthening historic sites which remain an important part of Mysuru's academic and cultural heritage.

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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

NARCO-TERRORISTS, DRUG PEDDLERS WILL BE HUNTED DOWN, WARNS J&K LG MANOJ SINHA

SP-CONGRESS ALLIANCE WILL CONTINUE, FOCUS WILL BE ON VICTORY, NOT SEATS: AKHILESH YADAV

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SCAN FOR MORE

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600 lawyers appeared for dog lovers in apex court

SC Sides With Residents In Campus Stray Dog Row

AmitAnand.Choudhary
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New Delhi: Practically every well known senior advocate in the country was there in the list of over 600 lawyers who appeared in the apex court in the stray dog menace case. Interestingly, most of them appeared for dog lovers while the opposite side — representing Resident Welfare Associations and victims — were in minority but were backed by the Centre represented by solicitor general Tushar Mehta.

A three-judge bench had given a patient and marathon hearing over seven days in which more than 600 lawyers and individuals were involved, including 68 senior advocates. All the top lawyers and legal eagles of the country including Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Kapil Sibal, K K Venugopal, Siddharth Luthra, Prashant Bhushan, Arvind Datar, Shyam Divan, Colin Gonsalves, Anand Grover, C U Singh to name a few — had appeared on the side of the dog lovers. The list of the lawyers was so lengthy that it ran to 16 pages of the apex court order sheet.

The lawyers appearing for dog lovers had pleaded the court to take a more sympathetic approach towards strays, particularly community dogs and submitted that they should be released in the same area after sterilisation and vaccination.

But their plea was strongly opposed by the solicitor general Tushar Mehta, who highlighted the problem of the menace posed in gated societies where few people, claiming to be dog lovers, bulldoze the opinion of the rest. He told the court that animal love is not confined to one animal and someday somebody may bring buffaloes within the society.

BJP leader Vijay Goel had also intervened in the case in support of RWAs and sought extension of SC's order to residential societies also. He said that the fundamental right to life of residents of residential society could not be whittled away. But at the end of the day, the top lawyers failed to convince a bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and N V Anjaria to modify its order to remove strays from campuses of public institutions.

'Bhaipo tax' eliminated, truckers cheer end of Bengal extortion toll gates

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Jamtara: Bhaipo tax. Danda tax. Bamboo barricades. Illegal nakas. Highway strongmen from "syndicates" armed with sticks. For decades, drivers of commercial vehicles entering Bengal from Jharkhand said those words defined border crossings more than signboards or toll gates. Trucks slowed. Cash changed hands. Arguments invited threats. Delays wrecked schedules and ate into earnings.

That grind has abruptly eased. Days after BJP assumed office in Bengal, state govt issued a zero-tolerance directive against what it called "extortion nakas (toll gate)" operating along interstate corridors. Magistrates were told to dismantle illegal collection points and prevent their return.

Truckers said result is visible already. Key crossings along NH-2 and adjoining state roads that once choked under bamboo barriers and unauthorised toll booths are now moving freely. Drivers transporting goods between Jharkhand, Bengal, Northeast and Bangladesh said harassment has dropped sharply over the past fortnight.

Nearly 50,000 trucks move through Bengal every day, making the state a critical logistics hub. "Two types of unofficial levies were common in Bengal — Bhaipo (nephew) tax and danda (stick) tax," said Sajal Ghosh, general secretary of Federation of Truck Operators Association in Bengal, referring to TMC MP and former CM Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee. "Bhaipo tax has vanished," said Ghosh. "We want danda tax wiped out completely too."

At Rupnarayanpur in Paschim Bardhaman district near Jharkhand's Mihijam border crossing, change is stark. The stretch once notorious for snarls and roadside collections by men wielding sticks now sees uninterrupted traffic flow. A blue-painted roadside "toll booth" standing in middle of road has been sealed. A BJP flag flutters nearby.

IN-SPACe leads space-tech team to Italy; deals announced

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: India's space regulator-cum-promoter the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) led a delegation of space-tech companies to the Space Meetings Veneto 2026 held in Venice, Italy, where several Indian firms announced partnerships with European companies.

The event, organised by Advanced Business Events and supported by the Italian Trade Agency and Agenzia Spaziale Italiana, brought together space industry companies, startups, policymakers and technology providers from multiple countries.

Nine Indian companies were part of the delegation, including Astrogate Labs, Astrobase Space Technologies, VyomIC, Suhora, Kepler Aerospace, Hyspace Technologies, TakeMe2Space, Jarbits Pvt Ltd and Dhruva Space.

Among the agreements announced during the visit, Karnataka-based Astrobase Space Technologies signed an MoU with Italy's Impulso Space to support customer access and explore launch opportunities through integrated mission management and launch service networks.

Kepler Aerospace signed a framework agreement with Apogeo Space to expand ground station as a service (GSaaS) infrastructure and strengthen satellite collaboration between India and Europe. The companies will also explore cooperation in CubeSat systems, payload technologies and mission operations.

Space ties get a leg up during visit

Space collaboration got a boost during PM Modi's visit to Europe, **reports Surendra Singh**. Sweden has joined India's orbiter mission to the Venus planet by signing a deal to collaborate on the interplanetary mission. And the Norwegian Space Agency has signed an MoU with Isro to give a new dimension to space cooperation between the two countries. As part of the Venus (popular as 'Shukrayaan') mission, Sweden's Swedish Institute of Space Physics will develop a scientific instrument called the Venusian Neutrals Analyser (VNA), which will fly aboard India's Venus orbiter.

Navy picks B'luru firm for weapon system

Bengaluru: The Indian Navy has awarded a contract to Bengaluru-based defence technology firm Tonbo Imaging under the ADITI 3.0 innovation framework for the integration and commissioning of a High Power Microwave (HPM) system for naval platforms.

Confirming the development, the firm said on Tuesday that "the programme is being supported by the ministry of defence's (MoD) iDEX initiative and the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO). Under the contract, the company will carry out system integration and commissioning activities, followed by the supply of production units after successful validation and acceptance." HPM systems are considered a critical directed-energy capability possessed by only a handful of countries. They are designed to disable or degrade enemy electronics, sensors and unmanned systems using concentrated electromagnetic energy rather than conventional kinetic weapons. TNN

On Ist Tuesday after HC ruling, prayers bring Bhojshala alive

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Thousands of devotees recited the Hanuman Chalisa and Saraswati Vandana. Outside, firecrackers were burst in the streets

Dhar: The first rays of Tuesday morning sun had barely touched Dhar when the sound of conches began rending the air. Devotees were already streaming in, many draped in saffron and yellow, filling corridors that have stood in quiet, contested silence for decades. The Bhojshala complex, with its intricately carved pillars still bearing the scars of time, was alive again with prayers.

It was the first Tuesday after the Indore bench of the Madhya Pradesh high court declared on May 15 that Bhojshala is a temple and centre of learning, clearing the way for Hindus to have unrestricted access to the site by quashing a 2003 Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) order, which allowed Hindus to offer prayers at the site only on Tuesdays and Muslims on Fridays.

The court also observed the continuity of Hindu worship at the monument, a site built during the Parmar dynasty around 1034 CE, and one that Muslims have long claimed as Kamal Maula mosque.

The atmosphere inside was a blend of devotion and vindication. Elaborate security arrangements had been made, with tent walls lining the path to Bhojshala, forming a passageway that blocked the view to the mosque and the shrines dotting the complex.

Behind those walls, inside the ancient corridors, rows of children were reading out Sanskrit verses in the presence of their gurus and priests seated before a cardboard 3D image of the Vagdevi statue. The original idol, taken to the British Museum in London, has been absent from its site for generations. In its place stood this symbolic image, worshipped with the same reverence.

Devotees recited the Hanuman Chalisa and Saraswati Vandana, distributed sweets, and walked the three-sided corridors with visible joy. Tributes were paid to those who waged "a four-decade struggle" for worship rights at the site.

"It is a complete victory of the truth," said Ruchi Shukla, a teacher who had come to offer prayers. "It's a historic day."

West Bengal CEO's appointment as chief secy challenged in HC

Kolkata: The appointment of Bengal's chief electoral officer (CEO) Manoj Agarwal as the state chief secretary has been challenged in Calcutta high court. The writ petition is scheduled to be mentioned before Justice Gaurang Kanth on Wednesday, **reports Kaushik Pradhan**.

Petitioner Anwar Hosen Molla argued that the Suvendu Adhikari govt issued the notification on May 11 when model code of conduct was in force in Falta assembly constituency following an order for a fresh poll on May 21. The plea alleged that the appointment was made without prior approval from EC. EC sources, however, said there is no legal bar on an officer simultaneously holding the posts of CEO and chief secretary. In several smaller states, the chief secretary has also served as the CEO.

NIA court sentences radicalisation convict to 7 yrs RI

Bengaluru: A special court of National Investigation Agency (NIA) in Bengaluru sentenced a convict in a Taliban and Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)-linked terror radicalisation case to seven years of rigorous imprisonment.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 63,000 on the accused, Hamraz Worshid Shaikh, a resident of Maharashtra, who pleaded guilty during the trial. The case was registered by the NIA in April 2023. Probe showed Hamraz was radicalised through Pakistani and Afghan contacts during his stay in Saudi Arabia between 2019 and 2022. The probe identified online handler named "Hanzala", who allegedly used Instagram account "Kashmir Pages" for radicalisation. TNN

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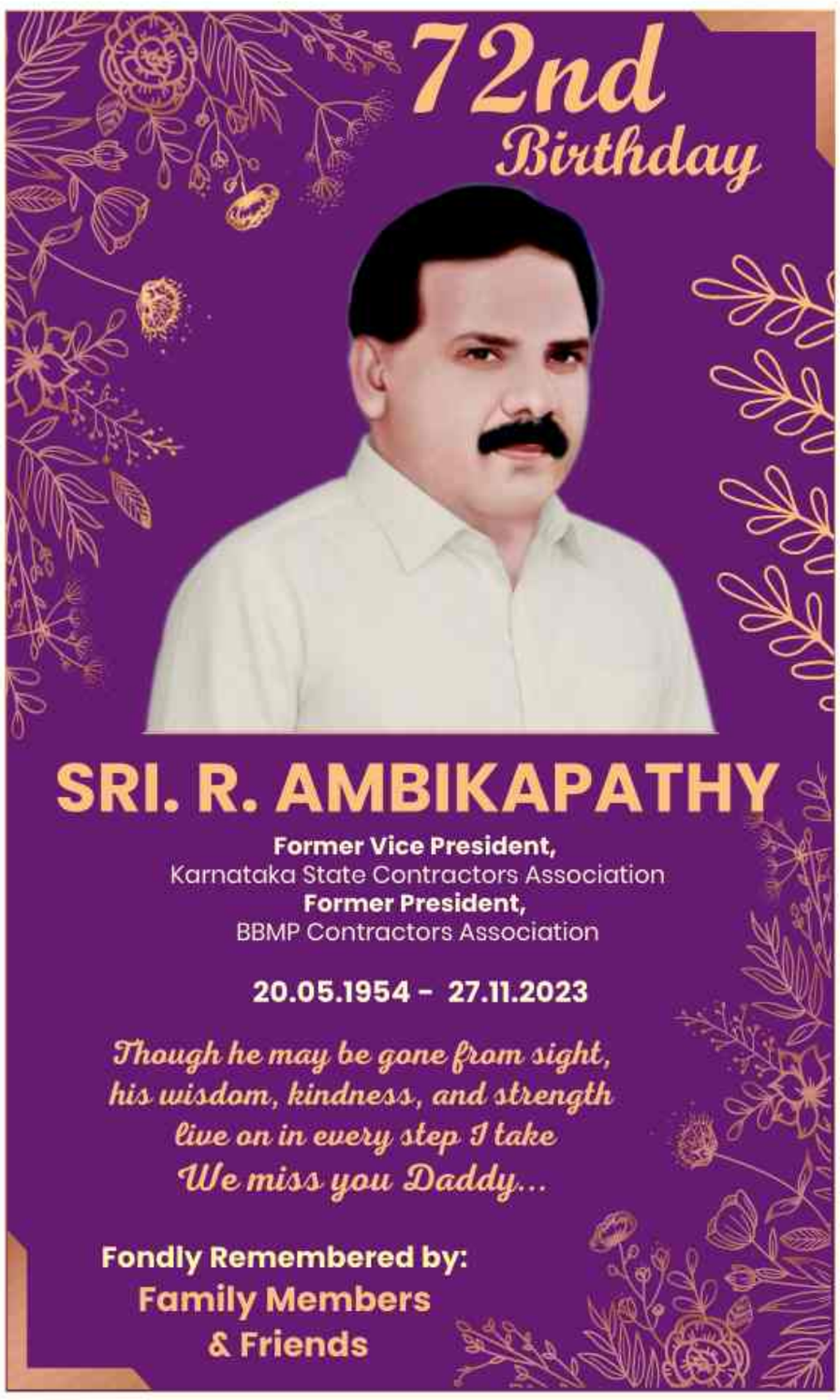

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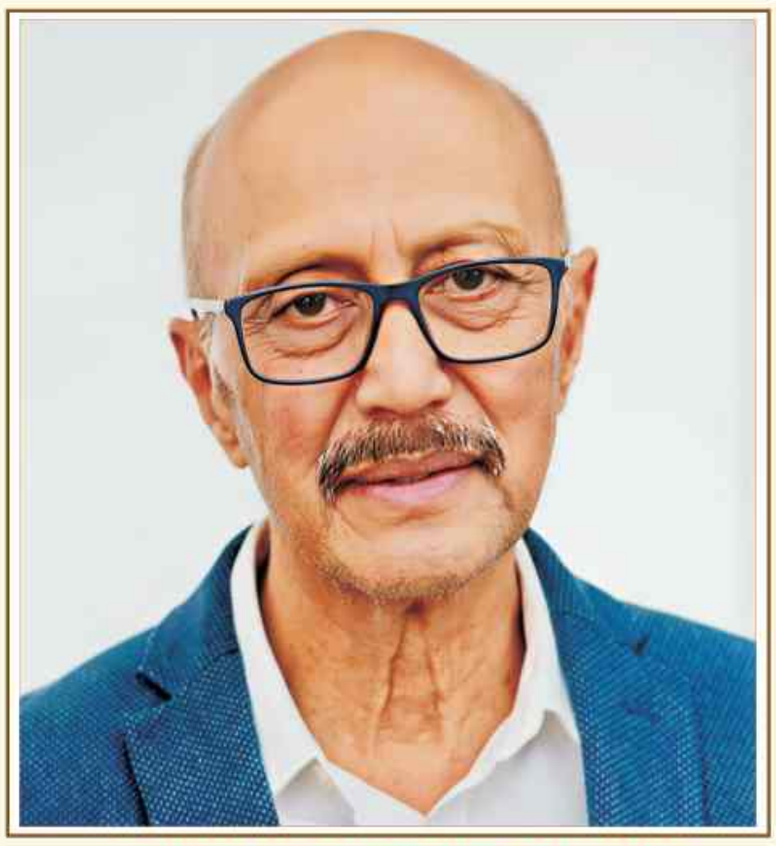

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SC: Can't remain oblivious to harsh realities of dog attacks

▶ Continued from page 1

SC not only rejected the impassioned plea of dog lovers to modify its earlier order against stray dogs, but also passed a slew of directions for implementation of its order and Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, with a clear message that local and state govt officials would be liable for contempt for non-compliance. Stray dogs do not possess an indefeasible or absolute right to occupy spaces or premises, irrespective of their nature or use, it said.

Proceedings in the case started in Aug last year when Supreme Court took suo motu cognisance of a **TOI** report, "City Hounded by Strays, Kids Pay the Price".

"This court cannot also remain oblivious to the harsh and deeply disturbing ground realities emerging from

The top court said any animal welfare organisation that intends to take care of stays has to give an undertaking to take responsibility in case of any dog bite

various parts of the country, where young children have been mauled, elderly persons have been attacked, ordinary citizens have been left vulnerable in public spaces and even international travellers have fallen victim to such incidents," the bench said.

"If such conditions are permitted to continue unchecked, the inevitable consequence may lead to a regression towards a state where the Darwinian theory of evolution, namely, the survival of the fittest would effectively govern civic life and public spaces. Such a situation would be wholly incompatible with a constitutional democracy governed by the rule of law," it said.

Referring to 'human vs animal conflict', it said this court must also emphatically observe that while considerations pertaining to animal welfare and protection of sentient beings constitute matters of undeniable constitutional, statutory and moral significance, such considerations cannot be permitted to eclipse or subordinate the paramount obligation of the State to safeguard human life, bodily integrity and public safety. "When safety and lives of human beings are weighed against the interests and welfare of sentient beings, the constitutional balance must necessarily and unequivocally tilt in favour of the preservation and protection of human life," it said.

The top court bench said the presence of stray dogs in public institutions poses serious safety and health hazards. The bench said any animal welfare organisation that intends to take care of stays has to give an undertaking to take responsibility in case of any dog bite.

Rejecting the plea that ABC Rules mandate continued presence or reintroduction of stray dogs in public places, the bench said it would create a direct, unavoidable and irreconcilable conflict between statutory interpretation and constitutional imperative of ensuring public safety in such environments.

SC abdicated responsibility on stray dog issue: Maneka

New Delhi: Former Union minister and animal rights activist Maneka Gandhi on Tuesday said the Supreme Court has "simply abdicated responsibility" on the stray-dog issue, contending that its earlier directions had gone unimplemented across the country and were "technically not feasible" to execute.

Gandhi's remarks came after the court earlier in the day refused to recall its Nov 2025 order on relocation and sterilisation of stray dogs, and stressed that the right to live with dignity includes the right to move freely without the fear of dogs."The court has done nothing, it has simply abdicated responsibility and said go to the HC if you want,"she said. She said the SC has merely reiterated its earlier directions, without addressing the widespread failure in implementation over the last six months. PTI

Prime accused in Suvendu aide's murder held

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Varanasi: Central Bureau of Investigation on Tuesday arrested Vinay Rai alias Pumpum, 50, prime accused in the murder of Bengal CM Suvendu Adhikari's personal aide Chandrakanth Rath, from Varanasi.

CBI had been hunting for Rai, a native of UP's Ghazipur around 120km from Varanasi, since May 9. He is the third suspect in the case to be held from UP after Raj Singh and Rajkumar Singh, both from Ballia. Rai was produced before a Varanasi court late Tuesday evening for transit remand and taken to Kolkata. CBI officers did not specify his precise role in the murder of Rath, who was gunned down by unidentified assailants near his home in Madhyamgram, near Kolkata, on May 6 — two days after BJP swept to office in Bengal.

Rai had come on the radar as investigators traced the links of the shooters from eastern UP following a UPI payment made at a Kolkata toll plaza by some of the suspects on the day of the murder.

Raj Singh was arrested in Ayodhya on May 10. Before that, a Bengal team had reached Ghazipur in search of Rai, who faces multiple criminal cases.

SC: Hollowing out constitutional force of larger bench a concern

▶ Continued from page 1

Do you want to say that it has an error, it asked. The ASG responded by saying that he had not read the entire judgment and needed a day to go through it. But he said the issue has to be referred to a larger bench. A division bench on Monday said it was "difficult to follow" the division-bench judgment in the Delhi riots case, which contradicted the 2021 three-judge Najeeb case verdict.

The bench expressed concern over "propriety of smaller benches progressively hollowing out the constitutional force of a larger bench decision without ever expressly disagreeing with it". As soon as the bail plea of accused Tasleem Ahmed and Abdul Khalid Saifi was called for hearing, the ASG brought Monday's judgment to court's notice and sought adjournment.

Interestingly, the judgment that Justices Nagarathna an Ujjal Bhuyan criticised on Monday, had been delivered by a bench led by Justice Aravind Kumar on Jan 5.

In its Monday verdict, SC said that "bail is the rule, jail the exception" wasn't just a slogan flowing from CrPC but a constitutional principle grounded on Article 21 & 22. It expressed "serious reservations" on the court's verdict denying bail to Khalid and Imam, saying it didn't follow a larger bench judgment — which is "law of the land" and as per which bail should be granted in cases of long incarceration and delay in trial, even under UAPA and PMLA.

"Statutes may undoubtedly calibrate the manner in which that principle is applied, particularly in cases involving national security or terrorist offences for which the UAPA is meant, but those cannot altogether invert the constitutional relationship between liberty and detention" it said.

Lashkar agent's ideological zeal crumbled in life's peaceful reality

▶ Continued from page 1

Their inspiration, interestingly, seems to be 26/11 plotter Sajid Mir who underwent a plastic surgery to change his looks years ago.

Lashkar operative Usman Jutt alias Chinese admitted to interrogators that severe hair loss had severely damaged his personal confidence and self-esteem. Surrounded by the peaceful reality of daily life, which entirely contradicted the aggressive propaganda fed to him in training camps, his ideological zeal crumbled. He chose to prioritise his receding hairline over his assigned mission. Mental health experts says Jutt's case is a classic example of how personal vanity and psychological distress can override radical indoctrination.

However, an investigator said it is also likely that the obsession with cosmetic procedures is aimed at evading law enforcement.

HC orders total eviction from Hyderabad footpaths

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Hyderabad: Telangana high court has ordered an immediate crackdown on encroachments on footpaths and streets across the twin cities, stressing the urgent need to ensure pedestrian safety and protect public spaces.

Hearing a petition filed by senior citizens from different parts of the city, Justice NV Shravan Kumar directed the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and the police to undertake a "grand clean-up operation" across Hyderabad and Secunderabad in coordination with all agencies concerned.

Observing that pavements and roads have been extensively occupied by unauthorised shops, street vendors, and illegal parking, the court noted that pedestrians are increasingly being forced onto busy roads, exposing them to serious danger and disrupting the smooth movement of traffic and public transport. The court also directed civic and police authorities to install permanent protective fixtures after clearing encroachments to prevent footpaths from being occupied again in the future.

NO ROOM: Vendors set up permanent stalls on footpaths, reducing walking space

In addition, strict action was ordered against illegal and irregular parking across the city, including vehicles parked on roads in residential areas. Authorities have been asked to submit a comprehensive status report before the next hearing scheduled for June 9. The petition was jointly filed by retired journalist B Surender, advocate Udaya Kumar Madishetty, and homemaker I Balamani, all senior citizens, who argued that the absence of usable pavements has made even basic movement within the city unsafe.

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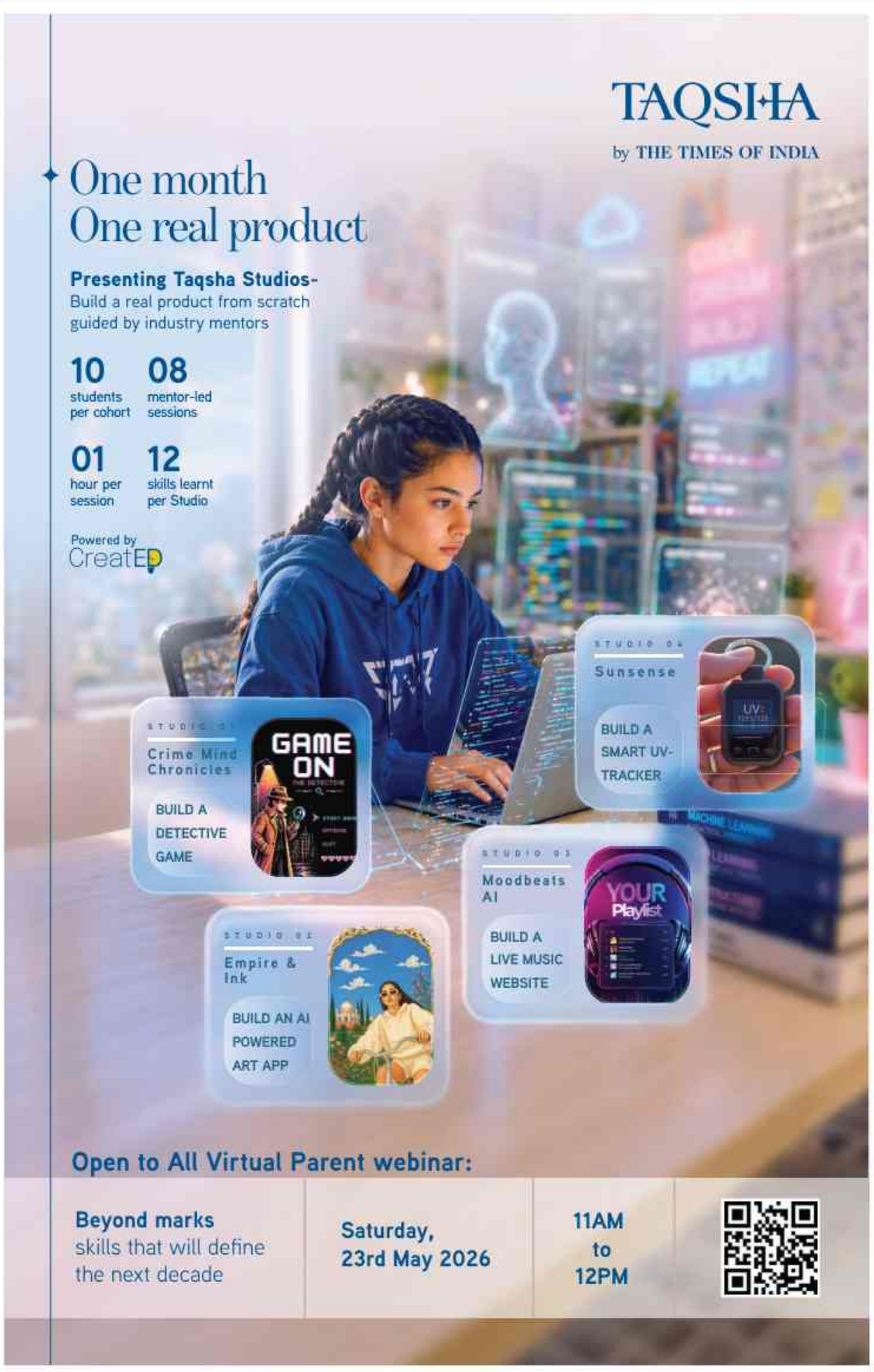

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Italy & India: A Strategic Partnership For The Indo-Mediterranean

By Narendra Modi & Giorgia Meloni

The relationship between India and Italy has now reached a decisive stage. In recent years, our ties have expanded with unprecedented momentum, evolving from a cordial friendship into a special strategic partnership grounded in the values of freedom and democracy, and a common vision for the future.

At a time when the international system is undergoing a profound change, the partnership between Italy and India is guided by regular exchanges at higher political and institutional levels, and is gaining a new and higher dimension that combines our economic dynamism, societal creativity, and millennia-old civilisational wisdom. Our cooperation mirrors our shared awareness that prosperity and security in the 21st century will be shaped by the ability of nations to innovate, manage energy transitions, and strengthen strategic sovereignty. To this end, we have committed to deepen and diversify our bilateral relationship with a view to pursuing new objectives and pooling our complementary strengths. We aim to forge a powerful synergy between Italian design, manufacturing excellence, and world-class supercomputers — reflecting Italy's position as an industrial powerhouse — and India's rapid economic growth, engineering talent, scale, and innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem with over 100 unicorns and 200,000 start-ups. This is not a simple integration, but a co-creation of value where our respective industrial strengths amplify one another.

The Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and India paves the way for increased trade and investment in both directions. We want to reach and exceed the Euro 20 billion target for trade between Italy and India by 2029, with a focus on defence & aerospace, clean technologies, machinery, automotive components, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, textiles, agri-food, tourism and more.

"Made in Italy" has always been synonymous with excellence worldwide, and today it finds a natural synergy with the high-quality goals of the "Make in India" initiative. In this context, the growing interest of Italian businesses in the production for India and the increasing presence of Indian industries in Italy, numbering over 1,000 from both sides now, is a positive sign that will strengthen the integration of our supply chains.

Technological innovation lies at the very heart of our partnership. The coming decades will be shaped by a technological revolution of unmeasurable scope, marked by advances in sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, quantum computing, advanced manufacturing, critical minerals, and digital infrastructure. India's dynamic innovation ecosystem, coupled with highly skilled professional talent pool, and Italy's advanced industrial capabilities make our cooperation in the above sectors both natural and strategic. The growing partnership between our universities and research centres will support this. India's Digital Public Infrastructure is already finding resonance with a large number of countries particularly in the Global South.

Artificial Intelligence, in particular, is already impacting our societies and the global economy. Italy and India have long been collaborating to ensure that AI development is responsible and human-centred. From this perspective, India and Italy also see AI as a powerful instrument for inclusive development, especially for the Global South, where digital public infrastructure and accessible, multilingual technologies can bridge divides rather than deepen them. Building on India's vision of MANAV — putting human at the centre of technology — and Italy's leadership in promoting a human-centric 'algor-ethics' rooted in its humanist tradition, our partnership seeks to ensure that AI acts as a catalyst for social empowerment. Our approach combines India's digital scale with Italy's ethical and industrial expertise, ensuring technology serves human dignity. By sharing best practices in secure digital cooperation, capacity-building and resilient cyber infrastructure, we aim to create an open, trustworthy and equitable digital space in which every nation can shape and benefit from AI. This perspective forms the core of Italy's G7 Presidency and outcomes of the AI Impact Summit 2026, held in New Delhi. Conceiving AI as a tool created by humans for humans means firmly asserting that technology cannot replace individuals or undermine their fundamental rights, nor be used to manipulate public debate or alter democratic processes. Our approach to defending freedom and human dignity in an increasingly interconnected world hinges on this very challenge.

India's impressive advancements in space exploration and satellite tech, together with Italy's aerospace engineering excellence, offer significant opportunities for joint initiatives and next-gen technology development

Our cooperation also covers the space sector. India's impressive advancements in space exploration and satellite technology, together with Italy's aerospace engineering excellence, offer significant opportunities for joint initiatives and next-generation technology development.

Security and stability remain essential to ensuring nations' prosperity. Italy and India intend to further strengthen their cooperation in sectors such as defence, security and strategic technologies. Our collaboration will help ensure the security of critical maritime routes, strengthen resilience in the face of threats, such as terrorism, international criminal networks, drug trafficking, cyber-crimes and human trafficking.

Energy is another key pillar of our partnership. The global transition towards diversified energy sources requires innovation, investment, and cooperation. India and Italy are collaborating from renewable energy to hydrogen technologies, and from smart grids to resilient infrastructure. While India's push for becoming a hub for green hydrogen exports offers immense potential, it perfectly complements Italy's advanced technology in renewable infrastructure and its strategic role as an energy gateway for Europe. Our collaboration along with other countries in key India-led initiatives — International Solar Alliance (ISA), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) — is also important in this context.

Physical, digital and human connectivity is the thread that weaves us together. Both India and Italy are located at the very heart of two crucial hubs of the global economy, the Indo-Pacific and the Mediterranean — regions that cannot be viewed as separate spheres, but instead as increasingly interconnected spaces. As a matter of fact, we are witnessing the emergence of what might be termed the Indo-Mediterranean, an important corridor for trade, technology, energy, data and ideas tying the Indian Ocean to Europe. It is precisely within this interconnected space that our bond naturally evolves into a special strategic partnership—one that bridges two continents and shapes new global dynamics.

In this context, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) represents a vision aimed at connecting our regions through modern transport and infrastructure, digital networks, energy systems, and resilient supply chains. India and Italy are also committed to working together with other partners to make this vision a reality.

We can address our shared challenges by drawing upon the profound partnership and the enduring cultural ties between our nations. Within Indian culture, the concept of "Dharma" evokes the sense of responsibility that must guide our actions, whilst the principle of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" — the world is one family — resonates powerfully in this interconnected digital age. Such values find a natural echo in Italy's humanist tradition, rooted in the Renaissance, which highlights the dignity of each individual and the power of culture to unite peoples and societies. Our shared vision, therefore, aims to lay the foundation for a strong and forward-looking India-Italy Partnership with our people at the centre.

The writers are Prime Ministers of India & Italy

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shailaja R. V, (formerly known as Shailaja Jagannath. R. V) w/o A. L. Jagannath, R/o, 2, Sankarshana, 3b cross, Gururaja layout, Doddanekkundi, Bangalore have changed my name from Shailaja Jagannath R. V to Shailaja R. V, sworn under Notory wide affidavit No: IN-KA37152276739997Y and henceforth will be known as Shailaja. R. V only.

I, RAJESH N, S/o Late. Nagaraju, residing at No.189, Near Shani Devara Temple, Moledooddi, Tagachagere, Channapatna, Ramanagar-562160, here by declare that NAGARAJA and NAGARAJU, both the names belongs to my father only, vide affidavit dt: 18.06.2026 before notary B.M Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

LOST & FOUND

I Radhakrishnan R. S/o Ramachandran R. aged about 47 years residing at U703, Mantri webcity parcel 3, Hennur Main Raod, Kothanur Bengaluru-560077 have lost my Engineering Transfer Certificate year dated 17/09/1997 to 30/04/2001 (Issue dated 06/06/2001) Bannari Amman Institute of Technology Sathyamangalam Erode Dist. Tamilnadu. If any one finds cont-7774022422 .

tender & notices

TENDERS

Union Bank of India
Procurement Vertical
Union Bank Bhavan, 239, Vidhan Bhavan Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021
Tender Notice
Union Bank of India invites e-tenders from vendors for the following items. GeM Bid No – GEM/2026/B/7547537 Dated 15.05.2026. Item/Job Description – Selection of Network System Integrator (NSI) for Supply, Installation, Maintenance of Network Equipments to connect all branches/offices and manage & monitor the Bank's Network under OPEX model. Date and time of tender publication – 15.05.2026 11:00 hours. Pre-bid Meeting: 26.05.2026 11:00 hours. Bid End Date / Time – 09.06.2026 16:00 hours. For other details and downloading of bid document, please visit Government e-Market Place (GeM) portal https://gem.gov.in for participation in the tender.

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Kantharaja H B (old name) s/o of Biligowda residing at No. 53/3 Chaluvanarayana Swamy Nilaya 6th cross 2nd main road kottige palya near gourmet school bengaluru - 560091, Karnataka, India changed my name from Kantharaja H B to Kantharaj H B vide affidavit dated 18.05.2026 sworn before notary H. R. Karunakara. Henceforth, I Shall be known as Kantharaj H B for all purposes.

I, Pooja Singh Senger D/o Man Singh Residence No- Flat no - 204, Ramchandra Residency 1,8th Cross Road, Opposite kataramma Temple,HAL 2nd stage, Indiranagar,Bangalore 56008, have changed my name Pooja Singh to Pooja Singh Senger for all purposes in future and both are, same person.

I, Swetha Jagadish Singh, W/O: Jagadish Singh, R/O: 37, Sri Nivas, Venkateshwara Layout, Kanaka Nagar Lake Road, Kanaka Nagar, Maragondanahalli- 560036, Have Changed My Name As Swetha Narayanappa. Vide Affdvt Dtd on 14/05/2026.

I, Lekha Chekkera Bopaiah , R/o : 3D, Swastik Apartments, 41/15 ,14th A Cross, Indiranagar 2nd stage, Bangalore 560038 have changed my name to Lekha Bopaiah . Affidavit date : 16/05/2026

WANTED at BSK II STAGE, BANGALORE
• PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR (Blade Fuse)
Qualification : B.E / Diploma / ITI
Language - Kannada, English, Hindi. Experience in the relevant field (only for male candidates)-5 Posts
• TOOL ENGINEER
Qualification : B.E / Diploma
Language - Kannada, English, Hindi. Experience in the relevant field (only for male candidates)- 3 Posts
• MACHINE OPERATOR
Qualification : ITI / Diploma (Any Trade)
Language - Kannada, English, Hindi.
Experience: Fresher/ Experience. (only for male candidates) Openings - 15 Posts
• QUALITY ASSISTANT MANAGER
Qualification : B.E / Diploma, Language - Kannada, English, Hindi. Experience in the relevant field (only for male candidates) Openings - 2 Posts
• PURCHASE EXECUTIVE - LOGISTICS
Qualification : B.Com. Language - Kannada, English, Hindi. Experience: Fresher/ Experience (only for female candidates) Openings - 3 Posts
Send resume to-careers@protectron.in
For details please visit : www.protectron.in

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
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WHY PARTNER WITH US?
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* Scalable & Expansion-Driven Business Model
* IPO Vision with Long-Term Growth Strategy
Specializing In Premium Engine Oils, Automotive & Solar Batteries, and Car Care Products with Strong Global Collaborations and Scalable Growth Opportunities.
SEEKING : • INVESTORS • VENTURE CAPITALISTS • STRATEGIC PARTNERS
Contact us Invest2growmore@gmail.com

ADMISSION NOTICE
ಶ್ರೀ ಅಹೋಬಿಲೇಶ್ವರ ವಿಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್
prabha shankar gurukul
SHRI. SAMPATH KUMAR Our Beloved Managing Director
Nature kidss Preschool
A STRUCTURED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM THAT INTEGRATES PHILOSOPHY, CURRICULUM, MATERIALS, ASSESSMENT AND TEACHER TRAINING
PROGRAMS OFFERED
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COLDWELL BANKER
JOIN THE GLOBAL LEADERS IN REAL ESTATE. Coldwell Banker invites Sales Professionals for Jayanagar, Devanahalli, & Hubli. Applicants must possess 2-3 years of relevant real estate experience and a track record of success. Step into a high-performance environment with world-class resources. Contact Madhu: 7019912121.
LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Looking to become a Partner with uncapped earning potential?
We are looking for entrepreneurial minds to lead our growth.
Email your credentials to: gopal.desai@coldwellbanker.in

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₹10–17 Lakh over 5 years**

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40% depreciation benefit^^

Battery Assurance
Lifetime battery warranty#

Fast Charge
20% to 80% charge in 20 min^

*As per tests conducted internally with moderate ambient temperature, City Drive with Low HVAC, Dry Road and Optimal Drive Mode. **Indicative savings compared to petrol SUVs, based on monthly usage of 1500–3000 km. Savings include running and maintenance expenses and depreciation benefits. ^^Please check with your tax consultant for eligibility. #Valid for First Registered Owner for 15 years with Private Registration only. In case of ownership change, warranty on HV Battery shall be 10 years or 2 00 000 km – whichever is earlier. ^With 180 kW DC Fast Charger / 400A Charger input. DC Charging time may vary based on ambient temperature, battery temperature, HVAC operation and voltage output from the charger.

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,
ALBC Division,Almatti-586201.
Tq:Nidagundi Dt: Vijayapur.

No:KBJNL/ALBC-DN/DM/Qutn/ALBC HW/2026-27/181
Date: 16.05.2026

INFORMATION QUOTATION NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, ALBC Division, Almatti the undersigned invites **sealed quotations** for competitive rates from Reputed Firm/Authorized Agencies for **"Replacement of Drive End Bearing and Non Drive Bearing of Crompton Greaves Make of 1800 KW and Supplying, Installation and Commissioning of Soft Starter Display of Jayshree Make at Almatti Left Bank Canal Headwork and Servicing and Overhauling of Non-Return Valve of 1400 mm Dia size of KBL make at Chimmalagi Lift Irrigation Scheme Headwork and Supplying and Fixing of 12 Tonne Capacity of size 5.00 meter height Hydraulic Jack with house pipe, adopter and link pin operated by hydraulic pressure, etc at CLIS"**. The details and any further information can be had with the under signed office during office hours and can be obtained through e-mail, duly placing your request to ee09albc@gmail.com and Cell No.: **9035782142** on or before **22-05-2026**. Last date to receive information quotation is on or before **25-05-2026 at 5.00 PM**. The sealed quotation will be opened on **26-05-2026 at 11.00 AM** in the under signed office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, ALBC Division, Almatti

ಮಾಸಾಸಂ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/106/ಕೆಎನ್ಎಂಎ/2026–27

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064
web site: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM TO EOI NOTICE No: RWF/M/EOI/AMS/1 Dated: 08/05/2026

"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST": On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer invites expression of interest for the following work through physical format or through Email. **Sl. No. : 1 EOI No.** RWF/M/EOI/AMS/1 Dated: 08/05/2026. **Name of the work:** Outsourcing the Machining of Axles for Railway Rolling Stock **Due date of submission of EOI:** 18.05.2026. **Extended due date for submsion of EOI:** 22.05.2026. For more details on this "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST" for the above mentioned work can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Dy. CME/Projects

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

CORRIGENDUM

Tender No. 70250029A, Date: 14.05.2026. Following corrigendum has been issued against the **T/Case No. 70250029A** for procurement of **"Integrated Locomotive Kit For WAG-9H Class of Freight Electric Locomotive"** i.e.**Change of Item Description: Description:**Item Description under Item Details (Sl. No. 2) of NIT(Pl. No. 29010330). **From: Existing Subject.To Be Read As:** Integrated Locomotive Kit For WAG-9H Class of Freight Electric Locomotive As Per RDSO SPEC NO. RDSO/2017/EL/SPEC/0127, Rev.2. In addition to above description, the Integrated Locomotive Kit should also comply requirement mentioned in Schedule of requirement (SOR), copy attached with tender documents. Annual maintenance for 35 (thirty -five) years will be as per LTMA vide Doc. No. C-D&D/T/24/LTMA, Rev-2 Issued On 06/05/2026.

PR8/352 AMM/HQ-II/CLW/Chittaranjan

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BOI — Bank of India

Head Office, IT (Governance & Excellence) Department, Star House-3, PNB-BOI Tower, C-29, G Block, 10th Floor, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051.
E-mail: Headoffice.ITProc@bankofindia.bank.in

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR

Selection of Service Provider for End-to-End Implementation of CPaaS Solution for SMS, WhatsApp, RCS and E-Mail Services for Domestic, FCBS and RRB Segment for 5 years
Ref No: BOI:HO:IT(G&E):CPaaS:0330, Dated 18.05.2026
GeM Bid No. GEM/2026/B/7531541, Dated 18.05.2026
The captioned RFP is available on Bank's corporate website www.bankofindia.bank.in under "Tender" section & GeM portal. Subsequent changes if any, will henceforth be uploaded on the Bank's website & GeM portal. The last date of bid submission: 08.06.2026

उदयपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, राजस्थान

No. :- F-2(01)Acct/Contract/2026-27/52 - 54 Date :- 14/05/2026

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या : 12/2026-27

उदयपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, उदयपुर द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्यों मय डिफेक्ट लाईबिलिटी अवधि के लिये जो कि निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित है के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदको से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :–

निविदा कार्यों की कुल लागत	:	रूपये 453.95 लाख (01 कार्य)
ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड / अपलोड करने की अवधि	:	16.05.2026 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 11.06.2026 को सांयः 6.00 बजे तक
Online EMD, Tender Fee & Processing Fee जमा कराने की तिथी	:	16.05.2026 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 11.06.2026 को सांयः 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन निविदा खोलने की तिथी	:	12.06.2026 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे

विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट **urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitudaipur**, **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** व **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है।

UBN No. : ITU2627WSOB00046

राज.संवाद/सी/26/3087

अधिशाषी अभियन्ता - चतुर्थ
उदयपुर विकास प्राधिकरण

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - M.C.P.H. Division No. 1			
1.	Providing & laying of 700mm (28") i/d, 600mm (24") i/d & 450mm (18") i/d RCC NP-2 pipe line for smooth functioning of SWD system at various locations in Sector-41 (A&D), Chandigarh. (Ch. To. Capital Head: SWD System). Amount : Rs. 1,88,66,120/- EMD : Rs. 3,77,325/- Time Limit : 06 Months	19.05.2026 To 29.05.2026 at 02:30 PM	29.05.2026 at 03:00 PM
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Hort. Division No. 2			
2.	Operation and Watch and Ward of Fountains in various Green Belts/Parks at various locations under the jurisdiction of SDE MCPH Sub Divn. No.19, Chandigarh under Revenue Head. Amount : Rs. 98,41,104/- Time Limit : 12 Months Earnest Money : Rs. 1,96,822/- Tender Fee : Rs. 3000/-	19.05.2026 at 5.30 P.M To 26.05.2026 at 3.00 P.M.	26.05.2026 at 3.00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
3.	Construction of Pedestrain Path with PCC tiles on Internal Roads of Rehabilitation EWS Colony of 8448 flats Zone 3 & 4 Dhanas, Chandigarh. Capital Head : Amenities / Services in Rehabilitation Colonies. Est. Cost : Rs.166.79 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs. 3,33,579/- Time Limit : 06 Months	19.05.2026 To 28.05.2026 upto 12.00 noon	28.05.2026 at 15.00 PM

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
M.C.P.H. Division No. 1, Near Karuna Sadan, Sector 11, Chandigarh, Hort. Divn. No. 2, M.C. Chandigarh and Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. Ph. 0172-5021482 xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

National Dairy Development Board

PB No. 40, Anand, Gujarat-388001, Tel: 02692-260 148/149/160 Fax: 02692-260 159
Website: http://www.nddb.coop, Email: purchase@nddb.coop
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) / LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (LCB)

Bids are invited on behalf of Service Recipients/ NDDB from eligible bidders for the works listed below:

Sl. No.	Description of works / Bid Reference	Estd. Cost (₹) incl GST/Duration	Event Start / Close Date	Bid submission / opening date & time
A	**Civil, Structural, Water Supply, Sanitary & Other Misc. works including Internal Electrification works for:**			
I	75 MTPD CBG Plant at Ode, Anand District, Gujarat. **NDDB/HO/Purchase/20/26-27/ET/20[Civil-Ode]**	1550 Lakh / 10 Months	20.05.26 10.06.26	10.06.26 15:00 hrs. 10.06.26 15:30 hrs.
B	**Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the following:**			
I	33 KV/ 433 V sub-station for New Dairy, Powder Plant and Cattle Feed Plant at Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh. **NDDB/HO/Purchase/21/26-27/ET/21[Substation-Kuppam]**	837 Lakh / 12 Months	23.05.26 15.06.26	15.06.26 15:00 hrs. 15.06.26 15:30 hrs.
II	Modular Partitions, furniture & Allied MEP works for State Central Testing lab at Kangra Dairy, Himachal Pradesh. **NDDB/HO/Purchase/22/26-27/ET/22[Lab-Kangra]**	68 Lakh / 04 Months	21.05.26 11.06.26	11.06.26 15:00 hrs. 11.06.26 15:30 hrs.
C	Providing and carrying out Gardening services at NDDB Anand, Gujarat. **NDDB/HO/Purchase/23/26-27/ET/23[Gardening-Anand]**	130 Lakh / 12 Months	30.05.26 22.06.26	22.06.26 15:00 hrs. 22.06.26 15:30 hrs.

For further details pertaining to IFB and for downloading the bid document, please visit these websites: **www.nddb.coop** and **www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn** For any clarification please contact **Group Head (Purchase), NDDB, Anand**-388001.
NB: Any corrigendum/modification etc. will be posted only on these websites.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE (CCRUM)

(Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India)
Jawahar Lal Nehru Bhartiya Chikitsa Avum Homeopathy Anusandhan Bhawan,
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058

Invites Research Proposals Under Expression of Interest (EOI) Scheme 2026-27

Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India has implemented the **Expression of Interest (EOI) Scheme 2026-27** through which financial support is provided to institutions for collaborative research. Applications are invited from eligible investigators/institutions in the priority areas of collaborative research (details available on the website: **https://ccrum.res.in** & **https://ccrum.ayush.gov.in** for the year 2026-27.

Details of the scheme and application format are available on the website. Proposals must strictly adhere to the guidelines outlined in the **CCRUM Research Policy 2025**. Interested institutions may submit their research proposals in **Online mode only.**

Important Instructions:

1. Proposals must be submitted strictly in accordance with the CCRUM Research Policy 2025.
2. Incomplete proposals or those not conforming to guidelines/ not duly forwarded by the Competent Authorities will be rejected.
3. The Council reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal without assigning any reason.
4. No proposal will be accepted through the Physical mode.

For Detailed Information:

Kindly refer the CCRUM Research Policy 2025 and submission link available on the Council's website **(https://ccrum.res.in & https://ccrum.ayush.gov.in)**
The last date for submission is within one month from the date of publication of this notice.

Deputy Director General
Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM)
Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, New Delhi

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, (IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES)

Podium Block,3rd Floor, V.V Tower, Bengaluru-560001
e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com, Phone No.080-29565353

No. SPLOCA/ADM/30/2024-25 **Date: 18.05.2026**

NOTIFICATION

Resume are invited from interested agencies/interested individuals to fill up the following various posts on contract basis which have been sanctioned by Government and not filled up to the Office of the Special Officer and the Competent Authority (IMA and Other Scam). The applications shall be submitted to the above office. **Last date of submission of Resume: 30.05.2026. 5.00PM**

Name of the Posts

Sl. No	Post/ Designation	No. of Post	Maximum Contract wage per month	Qualification
1	Shirastedar/ Deputy Tahsildar	1	Rs. 55,000/- (Actual shall depend upon qualification & Experience)	Retired from Revenue Department & not above the age of 65 years.

Sl. No	Post/Designation	Qualification	No. of Post	Contract wage per Month
		Basic		
1	Legal Typist	LLB, Registered at Bar Council of Karnataka, typing speed 40 WPM both English & Kannada. Ability to communicate in both Kannada & English	1	22,000/- to 24,000/- including OT charges and Sitting fees as per Government norms (on outsource basis)

The Position to be filled is a post created by the Revenue Department Government of Karnataka vide different Government Orders and is renewable year on year. It is a post on contract, renewable on satisfactory performance with periodic enhancement of salary scales, **not a permanent government service.**

Sd/-
Special Officer and Competent Authority,
(IMA & Other Scam),
Revenue Department, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/736/NR/2026-27

4001/94/2627 — ODISHA POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Odisha undertaking)
AT-IB THERMAL POWER STATION, PO: BANAHARPALI, DIST: JHARSUGUDA, ODISHA-768234
Phone no: (Land Line No. 06645-289232/221/355/356/245)

CORRIGENDUM - I

Extension of Time for EOI Submission

Ref No: EOI/2026-27/GYPSUM/01/CORR-01 **Date: 15.05.2026**

With reference to the Expression of Interest (EOI) published by Odisha Power Generation Corporation Ltd. vide EOI No: EOI/2026-27/GYPSUM/01 regarding "Buyer enlistment for the purchase of GYPSUM from Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) plant", all interested applicants, purchasers, and agencies are hereby informed that the competent authority has approved the extension of the last date for submission of proposals. The key amendment in the schedule is detailed below:

Description / Event	Original Date	Amended / Extended Date
Last date and time for submission of Expression of Interest (EOI)	**15.05.2026**	**30.05.2026**

All other terms, conditions, specifications, guidelines, and application formats outlined in the original Expression of Interest (EOI) document remain completely unchanged and shall continue to be valid and binding.

Prospective buyers are advised to complete and seal their applications inside an envelope superscribed as "Expression of Interest for Buyer Enlistment - GYPSUM" along with the EOI reference number, and ensure delivery to the designated office address before the revised deadline.

Sd/-
DGM-Contracts
OIPR-4001/4067/1/26-27/0003

25001/173/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA
email- serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No. 2319 **Date: 15/05/2026**

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH GePNIC e_Procurement Notice

1. Name of the work : Construction of Road Works - 15 Nos.
2. Class of contractor : "B" Class, "A" Class of (Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authority.
3. Estimated Cost : Various from Rs.137.50 Lakhs to Rs. 431.11 Lakhs (Approximately).
4. Details of projects : As per Annexure attached.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding From	Availability of Tender online for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of opening of tender: Financial Bids
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda	CCERWCSBD -Online-18/2026-27	20.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	09.06.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	08.06.2026 up to 2.00 P.M.	10.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	To be intimated separately

5. The details of works can be seen from the web site **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
6. Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e-tender web site.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda
OIPR-25001/25182/1/26-27/0019

25001/186/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR
AT-CHANDIKHOL, PO-SUNAGUDA, JAJPUR-754296, E-mail - serw_kpd@yahoo.com

No. Tender Online RCK-09/26 **Letter No. 2988** **Date: 13.05.2026**

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the Work : Tender for the Road works under (MMSY-TRIP / SDMF) in the Dist. of Jajpur.
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure.
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the column-7 of the Annexure.
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached.
5. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of tender On-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of Tender: Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur	Tender Online RCK-09/26	25.05.2026 at 11:00 AM	08.06.2026 to 5:00 PM	08.06.2026 up to 02:00 PM	09.06.2026 at 11:00 AM	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur
OIPR-25001/25129/1/26-27/0005

25001/178/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE BOLANGIR
e Procurement Notice

1.	Name of work	: Construction of Roads in the district of Bolangir under the Scheme of Mukhya Mantri Sadak Yojana (MMSY) for the year 2026-27
2.	No. of works	: 2 (Two) works.
3.	Time for completion	: 6 (Six) Calendar months
4.	Approximate estimated cost varies from	: Rs. 140.50 lakhs to Rs. 148.21 lakhs
5.	Mode of Submission of tender	: Tender should be submitted online in www.tendersodisha.gov.in
6.	**Other details are as follow**	

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on line for bidding From	Availability of Tender on line for bidding To	Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & time of opening of tender: Technical Bid	Date & time of opening of tender: Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Bolangir	**BLGR-Online - 07/2026-27**	25.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	17.06.2026 upto 5.00 P.M.	16.06.2026 upto 5.00 P.M.	18.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	The date will be intimated later on

- Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
- Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e tender website only.

Sd/-
S.Mahali
Chief Construction Engineer
R.W.Circle, Bolangir
OIPR-25001/25118/1/26-27/0005

25001/180/2627 — OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER

By E_Mail/e-Despatch
E_MailID : serw_balasore@yahoo.in
Ph-No-06782/260318
Balia, Balasore

RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE
"e" Procurement Notice for Road Work
Identification No.- Online Tender- Road N.C.B. No. 03 for 2026-27
Letter No. 2249 Date-14/05/26

1. Name of the work : SDMF
2. Total No. of work : 7 Nos. of work.
3. Estimated Cost : As per annexure
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per annexure.
5. Period of Completion : As per annexure.
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of tender On-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E.R.W. Circle, Balasore: Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E.R.W. Circle, Balasore: Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore	NCB No.-03 of 2026-27	25.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M	16.06.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.	12.06.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.	17.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website: **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
R.W. Circle, Balasore
OIPR-25001/25105/1/26-27/0003

34001/218/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,

"e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail: ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-Roads-I-05/2026-27

1. The Engineer-in-Chief (Civil), Roads-I, Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system through ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Road work as mentioned below :
2. Nature of work : Road works
3. No. of work : 6 Nos.
4. Tender Paper cost : Rs. 10,000.00
5. Class of Contractor : 'A' Class / Special Class / Super Class
6. Available of bid document the website : From 10.00 A.M. of 22.05.2026 to 5.30 PM of 08.06.2026
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt.09.06.2026 at 11.30 A.M.
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Engineer-in-Chief (Civil), Roads-I, Odisha
OIPR-34001/34181/1/26-27/0007

25001/183/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, RAYAGADA
Email ID-ccerwcrayagada@gmail.com

Letter No. 1598 Date: 14.05.2026

1St Corrigendum

In Continuation to this office bid identification No. NCB-01/ RWCRGDA/2026-2027 invited vide this office letter No-1319 dated.17.04.2026 partial modification of TCN has been made as follows :

Sl. No.	Item	Time schedule as per Original TCN	Time schedule as per Corrigendum Notice
1	Availability of tender online for bidding	Dt.30.04.2026 at 11.00 A.M. to Dt.19.05.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.	Extended from Dt.19.05.2026 at 5.00 P.M. up to 5.00 PM of Dt 05.06.2026
2	Date & time of seeking tender clarification if any	Dt.18.05.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.04.06.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.
3	Date & time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	Dt.20.05.2026 At 11.00 A.M.	Dt.06.06.2026 At 11.00 A.M.
5	Date & time of opening of tender (Price Bid)	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders

All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
RW Circle, Rayagada
OIPR-25001/25196/1/26-27/0007

25001/172/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

E-Mail - sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in
Ph.- 06764-236404

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR ROAD WORKS IN ODISHA
Bid Identification No. Road Online AGL- 06/2025-26
No. 1690 // Dt.- 14/05/2026

1. Name of the work : Road works.
2. Total No. of work : 32 Nos.
3. Estimated cost : Rs. 105.75 to Rs.978.87 Lakhs (Approx.)
4. Class of Contractor : As per annexure.
5. Period of completion. : As per annexure.
6. Other details.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of opening of tender: Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul	Road Online- AGL-06/2026-27	05.06.26 at 10.00 A.M	24.06.26 up to 5.00 P.M	23.06.26 upto 1.00 P.M	25.06.26 at 10.00 A.M	Will be intimated separately

For detailed Notice inviting Tenders, Please visit to the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Angul.
OIPR-25001/25180/1/26-27/0006

25001/175/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA
email- serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No. 2237 **Date: 12/05/2026**

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH GePNIC e_Procurement Notice

1. Name of the work : Construction of Road Works - 06 Nos.
2. Class of contractor : "B" Class, "A" Class of (Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authority.
3. Estimated Cost : Various from Rs.174.16 Lakhs to Rs.589.47 Lakhs (Approximately).
4. Details of projects : As per Annexure attached.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding From	Availability of Tender online for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of opening of tender: Financial Bids
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda	CCERWCSBD -Online-16/2026-27	20.05.2026 At 11.00 A.M.	09.06.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	08.06.2026 up to 2.00 P.M.	10.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	To be intimated separately

5. The details of works can be seen from the web site **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
6. Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e-tender web site.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda
OIPR-25001/25182/1/26-27/0021

25001/181/2627 — GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
CENTRAL RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
No. 2666 / Date.14.05.2026

NOTICE
FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH "e"-Procurement
Bid identification No. Tender-Online-C.C.-07 of 2026

The Chief Construction Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads & Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana **[PMGSY-IV (B-i)]** in the District of Khordha for **07 (Seven)** Nos. of Packages with estimated cost varrying from **Rs 85.70 lakh to Rs.351.36 lakh (Approximate)** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with State PWD/CPWD/MES / Railways. The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. Dtd. **20.05.2026**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission : The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in **www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**. The bidder would be required to register in the web- site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB with **Chief Construction Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar/ Superintending Engineer, R.W.Division, Bhubaneswar** on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 10.06.2026 upto 5.30 P.M

For further details and corrigendum (if any) please log on to www.pmgsytenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-25001/25082/1/26-27/0005

NTA announces series of reforms

Manash.Gohain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Amid continuing scrutiny over NEET-UG 2026 paper leak, National Testing Agency (NTA) on Tuesday announced a series of institutional, technological and administrative reforms, even as Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan chaired a high-level review meeting to assess preparations for the forthcoming NEET (UG) re-examination and tighten security arrangements across states.

The reforms come a week after cancellation of May-3 NEET-UG examination following reports that parts of question paper had been leaked before the test. The controversy revived concerns over examination security given the irregularities linked to NEET 2024, including paper leak allegations, grace marks disputes, suspicious perfect scores and claims of organised malpractice networks operating across several states.

NTA said it had initiated measures to strengthen its "leadership team, institutional capacity and oversight mechanisms", in line with recommendations of high-level expert committee headed by former ISRO chief K Radhakrishnan.

As part of the restructuring, four senior officers, including two joint secretary-level officers designated as additional directors general, have been posted to agency to improve administrative oversight and operational monitoring. NTA has also advertised for three specialist leadership posts — chief technology officer (CTO), chief finance officer (CFO) and general manager (human resources) — aiming to upgrade examination systems, institutional governance and internal accountability structures.

According to agency, the proposed CTO will oversee the digital examination ecosystem, including question paper management, AI-driven integrity controls, biometric and facial authentication systems, cyber-security safeguards and anomaly analytics designed to detect suspicious patterns during examinations.

Doctor falls into river from moving train, drowns

Vadodara: An Ayurveda practitioner, Dr Jainesh Patel, fell off a moving train into the Mahi river and drowned near Fajalpur, Gujarat, while travelling from Vadodara to Anand on Monday. Dr Jainish Patel, the 41-year-old with a BAMS degree, was married and lived in Anand. TNN

IndianOil diversifies LNG sourcing after W Asia crisis

▶ Continued from page 1

For the time being, prices of the 14.2kg cylinders have been left untouched at Rs 913.5 in the capital, with govt likely to bear a significant part of the burden.

While commercial LPG prices are revised on the first of every month, oil companies kept domestic LPG prices — used for cooking by more than 33 crore households — largely stable, except for a one-time increase of Rs 60 per cylinder in March. "Because of this disruption, we have diversified our crude and LPG sourcing. We have changed our refinery diet," Indian Oil's director (finance) Anuj Jain said. He said that Indian Oil had also diversified its LNG sourcing and bought gas from Indonesia, Nigeria, Oman and Angola after suppliers in West Asia declared force majeure.

After last week's revision, ratings agency Crisil had estimated losses on petrol and diesel at Rs 10 and Rs 13 per litre.

CM: He knew he wouldn't get a polling agent

▶ Continued from page 1

I want Falta to remain peaceful and prosperous. My dream has always been for Falta to become a golden Falta. That is why our honourable CM is giving a special package for Falta's development. I am withdrawing myself from May 21 contest for sake of Falta's development and benefit of its residents," said 41-year-old Khan, once considered one of TMC's key "vote organisers" in Diamond Harbour belt.

Adhikari seized on the withdrawal as proof of BJP's upper hand in Falta, south-west of Kolkata in South 24 Parganas district. "Where is Pushpa now? He knew he wouldn't get a polling agent... he had little option but to run," the CM said. He claimed "drama" was staged because TMC foresaw certain defeat.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has entered into an Agreement of Sale for the Schedule Property from **Sri. B.R. Raghunath, @ Boggaram Rathnaiah Setty Raghunath,** aged about 64 years, S/o Late. B.V. Rathnaiah Setty, R/at No 150, Race Course Road, Madhava Nagara, Bengaluru-560 001. I hereby notice to public that anybody is having any claim or interest in or over the Schedule Property, may write to the undersigned with documentary proof within **07 days** from this date, if no valid objections are received within the stipulated period, my client shall proceed on that basis, and there are no claims whatsoever nature.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing **New No.19, (Old No.77/1)** (Further Old No.66/B), PID No 77-109-19, situated at **(Race Course Road), Devaraj's Urs Road, Madhavnagar Extent,** Corporation Division No. 71, now Ward No.77, present Ward No 93-Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru measuring East to West: **45+43/2 feet,** North to South: **75.9+66/2 Feet,** all in total **3118.5 Sq Feet,** with RCC Roofed building measuring Ground Floor 2100 Sq. Feet and First Floor 1500 Sq. Ft and bounded on the:

East by : Viswanatha Rao Road, West by : Property No.66 of Patankar and Others, North by : B.V. Aswathaiah's Property, South by : Race Course Road.

Prakash Shetty & Associates,
Advocates,
14/38, 'Shivakrupa' 2nd Floor, Opp to K.G. Shamanna Park, DVG Road, Near Nagasandra Circle, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004
email : prakashshettyadvocate@gmail.com

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
CIN : U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website : www.pspcl.in
GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN : U40109TG1997PLC026483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

HOD-MMD, GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for supply of Hydraulic Actuator 200/50 for FD Fan 17/9.5-1.

1	Tender Enquiry No. 156GATP/MMD/BMD/20018151 **"Procurement of Hydraulic Actuator 200/50 for FD Fan 17/9.5-1.** at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications."

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 19/05/2026 from 17:00 Hrs. onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**
GATP-49/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/11575

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby notified that, we are investigating the marketable title of the owners to the Schedule Property for our clients who have agreed to purchase. Apart from the owners shown in the table hereunder, if any person/entity has any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same shall be filed with the undersigned, with supporting documents, within **14 (Fourteen) days** from the date of this Notice. Objections and or the claims received after expiry of the stipulated period, will not be binding on our clients and our clients will proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the lands (details of survey numbers and extent given in the table hereunder), situated at **KEMPATHIMANAHALLI VILLAGE, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.**

Sl. No	Sy. No	Extent A	Extent G	Owner name	Boundaries
1.	28/1	-	20	**Sri.K.H.Muniyappa** S/o Sri.Hanumanthappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/2 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/10
2.	28/2	-	24	**Sri.K.H.Muniyappa** S/o Sri.Hanumanthappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/3 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/1
3.	28/3	-	26	**Sri.K.H.Muniyappa** S/o Sri.Hanumanthappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.Nos.28/4, 28/9 & 28/8 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/2
4.	28/4	-	23	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/9 West by: Road North by: Road South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/3
5.	28/5	-	15	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/6 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A2
6.	28/6	-	8	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/7 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/5 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A2 & 29/1A1
7.	28/7	-	7	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/6 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1
8.	28/8	-	16	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/9 North by: Road South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/3
9.	28/10	-	24	**Sri.Subbarayappa** S/o Sri.Hanumanthappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/1 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11
10.	28/11	-	20	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.27 & 29/1B West by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/7 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/10 South by: land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1 & 29/1B
11.	29/1A	-	23	**Smt.Lakshmamma** W/o Sri.Subbarayappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1B West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A2 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/6, 28/7 & 28/11 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/4 & 31
12.	29/1A2	-	33	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/5 & 28/6 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/2, 29/3 & 29/4
13.	29/1B	-	20	**Sri.Nemichand Jain** S/o late Sri.Megharaj Jain	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.30/1 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.28/11 & 27 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.31
14.	29/2	-	20	**Sri.M.Krishnappa** S/o Sri.Muniyappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/3 West by: Halla North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A2 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.33
15.	29/3	-	19	**Sri.M.Krishnappa** S/o Sri.Muniyappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/4, 29/5, 29/6 & 29/7 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/2 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A2 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.33 & 33/2
16.	29/4	-	13	**Mr.Aslam Basha** S/o Mr.Ahammed Basha	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1 & 31 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/3 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/1A1 & 291/A2 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/5
17.	29/5	-	10	**Sri.M.Venkatesh** S/o late Sri.Muniyappa	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.31 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/3 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/4 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/6
18.	29/6	-	4	**Mrs.Haseena Taj** D/o late Mr.Abdul Latif Sab	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.31 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/3 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/5 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/7
19.	29/7	-	3	**Mr.Ummar Sab** S/o late Mr.Abdul Latif Sab	East by: Land bearing Sy.No.31 West by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/3 North by: Land bearing Sy.No.29/6 South by: Land bearing Sy.No.33/2 & 32/2

Sd/- **BAYYA REDDY. M**
Advocate
No.101, 4th Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex, 22nd Main Road, BSK 2nd Stage, Opp : Banashankari BDA Complex, Bengaluru-560070.

National Highways Authority of India
(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

भर्ती सूचना / RECRUITMENT NOTICE

1. भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण (भा.रा.रा.प्रा.), मुख्यालय में उपयोगिता शिफ्टिंग के कार्यों की देखरेख के लिए, संविदा आधार पर **सलाहकार (उपयोगिता)** के एक पद के लिए नियुक्ति हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है। यद्यपि पदों की संख्या प्राधिकरण की आवश्यकता के अनुसार बढ़ाई या घटाई जा सकती है।

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) invites applications for one post of **Advisor (Utility)** for engagement on contract basis to look after the works of Utility Shifting at NHAI Head Quarter. Number of posts may increase / decrease as per requirement of the Authority.

2. पात्रता मानदंड और अन्य शर्तें भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट **www.nhai.gov.in** पर देखे जा सकते हैं।

Eligibility criteria and other conditions may be seen on NHAI's website **www.nhai.gov.in**

3. **आवेदन जमा करना:** इच्छुक और पात्र उम्मीदवार अपने आवेदन **09.06.2026 (सायं 06:00 बजे तक)** भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध लिंक के माध्यम से केवल ऑनलाइन जमा करें।

Submission of Applications: Applications are to be submitted online only. Eligible candidates may apply online on the link provided on the website of NHAI by **09.06.2026 (upto 06:00 PM)**.

4. इस विज्ञापन के संबंध में शुद्धिपत्र / अनुशेष / निरस्तीकरण, यदि कोई होगा तो, उसे केवल भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा। इसलिए उम्मीदवारों को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे भा.रा.रा.प्रा. की वेबसाइट नियमित रूप से देखते रहें।

Corrigendum/Addendum/Cancelation to this advertisement, if any, shall be published on NHAI website only. Therefore, the candidates are advised to check NHAI website regularly.

***BUILDING A NATION,* NOT JUST ROADS**

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTORE GENERAL: STC BSF BANGALORE

No.BIT/ AUCTION/STC-BLR/2026/7393 Dated 11 May' 2026

// AUCTION NOTICE //

A public auction of condemned/ unserviceable technical stores of BSF Institute of Technology (BIT) held with STC BSF Bangalore will be held on **16 June 2026 at 1100 hrs** at STC BSF Bangalore

2. All interested bidders are requested to attend the auction the on scheduled date and time.

3. All the bidders will have to deposit **Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand only)** as Earnest money before commencement of the auction. The amount of earnest money will be returned/adjusted after finalization of auction.

4. The bidder have to be registered as per E- WASTE Rules with ministry of Environment & forest Central/ DPCC and state pollution Control Board under Karnataka Govt. Documents of registration and validity of authorization shall be produced with the bid agencies. The participation in the bid will not be allowed without requisite registration and authorization.

5. The firm may enclose sufficient documents regarding execution of government work order specifically disposal of E- waste.

6. All bidders must enclose GSTIN registration/ service tax registration certification with the tender documents.

7. The successful bidder will have to deposit the sale value of the auctioned stores on the spot and stores to be lift and within 12 hours after completion of auction under their own arrangements. No transport will be provided by this institution.

8. In case successful bidders fail to deposit the cost of the stores on spot, his earnest money will be forfeited.

9. The decision of the Inspector general, STC BSF Bangalore shall be final in all the matters.

10. The Inspector General STC BSF Bangalore reserves the right to accept or reject the auction without assigning any reason.

(JAYA C) Deputy Comdt.
For Inspector General
STC BSF Bangalore

CBC 19110/11/0007/2627

Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Area Planning Authority

No. 5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560009. Tel: 080-22341230/35, E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No:BMICAPA/CLU-04/11/2026-27/275 Date: 19-05-2026

PUBLICATION

(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

M/s Anjumana Properties LLP is Rep by Mr. Vishnu. K.M has applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Residential"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No:582/1 extent of 01 Acre-07 Guntas, Sy.No:582/2 extent of 00 Acre-20 Guntas, Sy.No:583/1 extent of 00 Acre-10 Guntas, Sy.No:583/2 extent of 00 Acre-18 Guntas, Sy.No:583/3 extent of 00 Acre-14 Guntas, Sy.No:583/4 extent of 00 Acre-20 Guntas, Sy.No:584/1 extent of 00 Acre-02 Guntas, Sy.No:584/3 extent of 00 Acre-02 Guntas, Sy.No:584/4 extent of 00 Acre-10 Guntas, Sy.No:592/2 extent of 00 Acre-07¼ Guntas, Sy.No:592/3 extent of 00 Acre-16 Guntas, Sy.No:593/2 extent of extent of 00 Acre-17½ Guntas, Sy.No:593/3 extent of 00 Acre-09 Guntas, Sy.No:594/2 extent of Acre-17 Guntas, Sy.No:594/3 extent of 00 Acre-20 Guntas, Sy.No:594/4 extent of 00 Acre-16 Guntas and Sy.No:594/5 extent of 00 Acre-17 Guntas totally measuring 06 Acre-22¾ Guntas of Kesare Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysore Taluk, Mysore District under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid lands are reserved for Agriculture zone in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following; **1.** Planned Residential development on this land will make housing sites available to the public at reasonable prices. **2.** If this land is developed Job opportunities will be available to all sector of labourers. **3.** If this land is developed, then the surrounding area will also get developed. **4.** If the development of layout takes place, the public are benefited with the civic amenities such as good roads, UGD, electrical facilities and parks etc. **Objections, if any, are invited from the public.** Any person may file his/her objection to the Member Secretary, B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru in writing to the address of this Authority **within 15 days** from the date of this notice. Any objections received after the stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/- Member Secretary,
B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bangalore

DIPR/CP/RO734/AAPL/2026-27

RAJIV GANDHI HOUSING CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise).

Registered Office, 9th Floor, 'E' & 'F' Block, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru-560009.
Tele-: 080-23118888, **Website:** https://ashraya.karnataka.gov.in **e-mail:** rgrhclgmtech@gmail.com

No.: RGHCL/01/TECH(GEN)/27/2026 Date: 19.05.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal)

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited invites Short Term tenders for the following work through KPP Portal from the eligible contractors. Last date of submission of bid is **Date: 02.06.2026**

Name of work

Sl. No.	Place	Amount put to tender [Excluding GST] (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Rs. (in Lakhs)
1	Construction of KPS Model Urdu School at 2 Locations (Extension of School Building at Each Locations in G+3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department in Different Taluks of Haveri District (Akki Aluru, Karadagi) Package - 7A. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 85**	876.32	13.14
2	Construction of KPS Model Urdu School at 3 Locations (Extension of School Building at Each Locations in G+3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department in Different Taluks of Haveri District. Package - 7B (Darga Hangal Village, Hanagal Taluk, Suraleshwar Road Hangal Village, Hangal Taluk, Kottigeri Bankapura Village, Shiggaon Taluk) (Fixed Price No Variation) Indent No: **RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 86**	1226.91	18.40
3	Construction of KPS Model Urdu School (Extension of School Building in G+3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department in Kanchinegaluru Village, Hangal Taluk of Haveri District-Package - 7C. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 87**	423.56	6.35
4	Construction of KPS Model Urdu School (Extension of School Building in G plus 3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department in Belagalapeth Village, Hangal Taluk of Haveri District - Package - 7D. (Fixed Price No Variation) Indent No: **RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 88**	379.70	5.70
5	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department at Jagaluru, Jagaluru Taluk, Davangere District(New work) Package - 3D. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 89**	502.16	7.53
6	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department at Honnali, Honnalli Taluk ,Davangere District (New work) Package - 3E. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 90**	502.16	7.53
7	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department at Nittuvalli (KTG Nagara), Davangere Town, Davangere Taluk &District (New work) Package - 3C. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 91**	502.10	7.53
8	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at Beedi Layout, Davanegere Taluk Davanegere District (Extension Work) - Package - 6C. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 92**	305.13	4.57
9	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) at K R Market, Davanagere Town, Davanagere Taluk, Davanagere District (Extension Work) - Package - 6A. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 93**	396.21	5.94
10	Construction of KPS Model Moulana Azad School (School Building at G plus 3 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department at Mundgod Town, Mundgod Taluk, Uttara Kannada District (Extension Work) - Package – 16 (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 94**	400.08	6.00
11	Construction of KPS Model Urdu School (Extension of School Building In G plus 2 Floors and Other Infrastructure Works) for Minority Department in Hulguru Village, Shiggaon Taluk of Haveri District - Package - 7E. (Fixed Price No Variation) **Indent No: RGRHCL/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 95**	365.11	5.48

Further information visit : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, https://ashraya.karnataka.gov.in.**

DIPR/CP/741/SA/2026-27

Sd/- General Manager (S D)

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F.NO. 2-541/CRP/2024(Part-2)/42 Dated: 19.05.2026

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Interview for filling up the post of Young Professional-I(One Position) & Young Professional-II (Three Positions) in the ICAR funded Consortia Research Platform on Vaccines and Diagnostics, on contractual basis will be conducted on **29.05.2026 at 9.00 am** at the Institute premises. Interested candidates may please visit our office or institute website for further details, with regard to project details, eligibility criteria, terms & conditions and application format **(https://www.ivri.nic.in/ otherpages/NewJobs.aspx).**

Sd/- Asstt. Admn. Officer

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PWD ZONE KOTA

No.479 Dated 14.05.2026

NIT No. 03/2026-27
Notice Inviting Bid
NIB No. PWD2627A0528

Bids for PWD Zone Kota are invited **Road Work** from interested bidders upto 6.00 pm, 10.06.2026 other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the Rajasthan and **http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in** website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 2358.05 lacs. (3 Works)**

UBN No.
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Addl. Chief Engineer
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*3 seats each reserved for students under Special Scholarship Scheme for J&K and Ladakh and other seats includes all reservation categories.

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- **Established Mahakumbh as one of India's most iconic congregations of faith**
- **Strengthened UP's appeal among domestic and international travellers**
- **Achieved consecutive Guinness World Records for Deepotsav in Ayodhya**
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Anxious People: Addressing Human Costs Of AI Gold Rush

With Fear Of Getting Replaced Affecting How Employees Perceive Work, Orgs Should Step Up To Reduce Their Stress

By James Agrawal

Artificial Intelligence is the zeitgeist of our times. The relentless noise surrounding AI taking over jobs is not just hype; it is driving an invisible crisis of employee anxiety. Companies can no longer afford to ignore this mental toll. To safeguard workforce well-being, leaders must confront the AI panic head-on before anxiety morphs into widespread disengagement and burnout.

The role of companies in stemming these issues varies across industries. For instance, companies at the forefront of the digital takeover in IT-related domains will need to work more actively. Research shows that companies in traditional domains like construction have less immediate concerns about the stressful environment created by AI-related noise and changes. While companies do roll out initiatives at the organisational level, AI-related change requires greater investment to proactively support employees.

Being proactive is key

Employees find themselves emotionally exhausted with continuous anxiety about what the future will bring with AI. When employees feel replaceable, there is a perceptible shift in how they perceive and conduct work. There is a tendency to focus only on the required work and avoid innovation. The focus shifts from doing meaningful work to visibly staying busy. Employees end up proving they are still needed, rather than focusing on productivity and outcomes. Uncertainty about how their role will evolve will lead to decreased productivity, absenteeism, and disengagement from the company's vision.

Ram

Firms must address growing workplace fears around AI by prioritising transparency, reskilling and employee confidence to prevent uncertainty from hurting innovation, morale, productivity and long-term organisational engagement

There is a clear solution to this. Companies should openly and transparently communicate with employees well in advance about the direction the company is headed and how AI will affect each person's work in the short and long term. Will AI play a supportive role in enhancing existing work, or will it replace roles altogether? Since technology is evolving at such a rapid pace, and uncertainty cannot be eliminated, it is especially important for employees to understand how the company values its people. Open discussions and transparent communication will go a long way in reducing the anxiety for employees.

Walk the talk

Once communication is addressed, organisations should provide avenues for employees to voice concerns about their roles and career paths. While AI adoption has occurred at various levels, outcomes have ranged from job losses to drastic changes in job roles. Training and handholding before and after implementing AI tools and providing information well in advance for major impacts on job roles, are necessary. Clarity in work transitions and reskilling options is also important to address employees' fears.

People before AI

Another major step for organisations is to ensure that employees find meaning in their work and that it aligns with the organisation's purpose. Companies should focus on the long term and have conversations that reorient employees to the company's work, making them feel part of the company's growth story.

Employee well-being initiatives should include sessions that discuss the impact of the AI juggernaut on the workplace environment. Opportunities like volunteering in the company's CSR initiatives will create spaces for conversations that let employees put their fears into words and discuss the dilemma of machines replacing humans. Involving employees and bringing to the forefront the idea that AI is an instrument, and not a replacement for humans, will be a catalyst for a transparent and healthy workplace.

(The author is MD, BTI Executive Search)

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Appointment under NAIN 2.0 Project

BLDE Association, a premier educational association established in the year 1910, having more than 85 educational institutions is inviting applications from eligible candidates on a contract basis at **BLDEA's SSM College of Pharmacy & Research Centre, Vijayapura, and BLDEA's V P Dr. P G Halakatti College of Engineering & Technology, Vijayapura**. These colleges have been recognised as New Age Incubation Centre (NAIN 2.0) by the **Department of Electronics, Information Technology and Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka**. Under this project, the following candidates are required to work at NHI (NAIN Host Institute).

1) District Innovation Associate (DIA)

Qualification: Bachelor's Degree with Science/Engineering/ Pharmacy subjects, with good communication skills and data management.

Experience: 1-2 years in Project coordination, Development and maintenance of collaborations with partnering agencies.

2) MIS Executive

Qualification: Bachelor's Degree with an Accountancy subject. Should know Tally, Excel, and data management.

Experience: 1-2 years in Project coordination, Preparation of the Utilization Certificate/audited expenditure statement and Maintenance of accounts.

Interested candidates can mail their CV to careers@bldea.org within **10 days** of this notification.

Note: These posts are on purely contract basis for one year and may be extended for two years based on performance and guidelines by NAIN2.0, Govt. of Karnataka. Salary as per NAIN 2.0 guidelines.

Date: 20-05-2026 Sd/- General Secretary

भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान बेंगलूर
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Faculty Position: RBI Chair Professor in Economics

Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) invites applications and nominations for the position of RBI Chair Professor in Economics.

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Applications and nominations may be sent to the Dean (Faculty), Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore – 560076, India (e-mail: research.deanfaculty@iimb.ac.in) on or before 10 June 2026.

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- Bank's website - **https://bankofbaroda.bank.in** ➡ Career Page ➡ Current Opportunities
- BFSI SSC's website - **https://bfsissc.com**

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement, ensuring their eligibility & other details before applying and remitting fees.

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Place: Mumbai **Chief General Manager**
Date: 19.05.2026 (HRM & Marketing) (2026-27)

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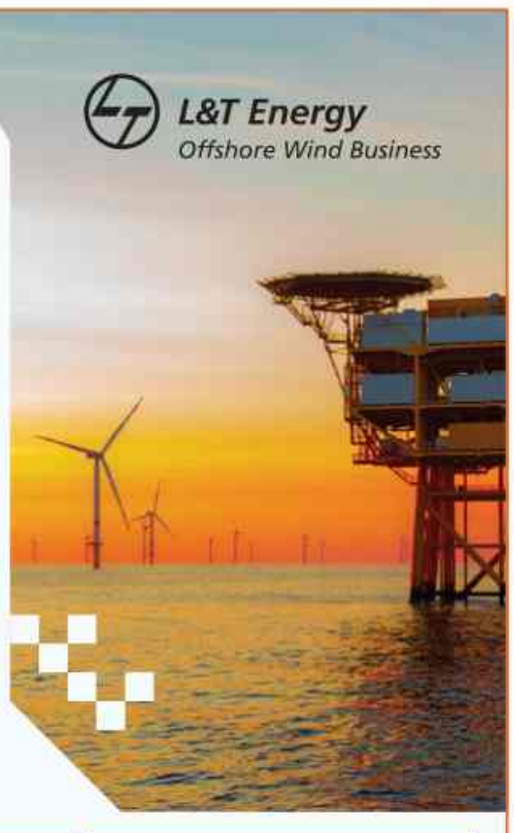

L&T Energy Offshore Wind is rising rapidly with large-scale global offshore wind projects. As this momentum builds, we're looking for experienced EPC professionals who are ready to grow with us – and be part of what's powering the future.

We're looking for professionals with

- A full-time Engineering Degree/Diploma with at least 60% marks and no academic backlogs.
- 3 to 20 years of experience in the Offshore EPC sector/Modular fabrication facilities with exposure in Design & Engineering, Project Planning, Project Execution, Fabrication, Production, QHSE, SCM, etc.

Job Locations

Chennai / Mumbai

Open Positions

Design & Engineering - Engineer / Designer
Engineering Management
Structural
Electrical
Instrumentation
Telecom
HVA/C
Process
Technical Safety
Architectural
Mechanical
Metallurgy
Piping
E3D Modeller / Admin.

Project Management & Support Function
Project Manager
Construction Manager / Engineer
Project Engineer
Interface Manager / Engineer
Project Control Manager / Engineer
Risk Manager / Engineer

Supply Chain Management (SCM)
Buyer - Structural / Electrical / Instrumentation / Architectural, HVA/C & HSE Etc
Buyer - Services
Delivery Manager / Post Order Manager / Expeditors

Modular Fabrication Yard Construction
Production Lead
Planning Lead
Quality Lead
Welding Lead
Lead - Corrosion Prevention & Surface Protection (CPSP)
Purchase & Stores Lead
Rigging In Charge
Blasting & Painting In Charge
Lead Outfitting Design Engineer

QHSE
Welding Engineer - IWE Certified - European Standard (DNV-OS-C401, EN 15614)
NDT Level III Engineer ISO 9712
QAQC Manager / Engineer
HSE Manager / Engineer

How to Apply

- Send your CV to **talent.offshorewind@larsentoubro.com**
- Please mention the position applied for in the subject line.
- Last date to apply should be 23rd May 2026
- Shortlisted candidates would be contacted for Interview.

L&T is committed to fostering an inclusive workplace and providing equal opportunities for employment and career growth based solely on merit, without discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, pregnancy, maternity, caste, socio-economic status, religion, nationality, ethnicity, race, colour, age, or political beliefs.

Important: Larsen & Toubro does not charge candidates any fees at any stage of recruitment. Please report any such requests to **infodesk@larsentoubro.com.**

A fungal infection that is trapping Indians quietly

Ringworm strain discovered here in 2020 has spread everywhere and is silently colonising patches of skin

Umesh Isalkar | TNN

It started as a small, itchy red ring for Roshan. A quick trip to a local chemist for a 'strong' cream seemed to do the trick. But within three weeks, Roshan's wife found a similar patch on her waist. His teenage son was the next to develop lesions on his thighs. Soon, the entire family was caussght in a relentless loop of scratching and buying various kinds of ointments for the skin to heal. But every time they thought they were cured, the patches returned.

"This is no longer the ringworm we knew a decade ago," says Dr Ananta Khurana, professor of dermatology at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in Delhi. "In centres with advanced diagnostic facilities, 60-70% of ringworm infections are now confirmed to be Trichophyton indotineae, a fungus species uniquely resilient to standard treatments. And because it is difficult to identify without advanced lab tests, its true scale is likely underestimated. But the reality on the ground is clear: it is everywhere."

This species was reported in India in 2020 and has, over the past few years, spread to more than 40 countries. A 2025 study published in the journal Cureus, which looked at dermatophytosis (ringworm) among 130 patients from North India, decribed T. indotineae as "a newly recognised species that has become endemic in India and is linked to high-level terbinafine (antifungal drug) resistance".

Shared towels, shared troubles

But how does one person's infection spread so readily to the entire family? It's because of deep-rooted household practices in India of sharing personal hygiene items such as soaps and towels. A multi-centric study across 13 Indian locations, published in the Mycoses journal in 2021, found that a staggering 50% of patients had at least one other infected family member.

WHAT'S THE SUPER-FUNGUS?

Trichophyton indotineae, a strain of ringworm that's resilient to standard antifungal treatments. It quickly migrates from one individual to the entire family, creating a cycle of infection that's difficult to break

WHY THE CONCERN?

Many seek 'quick fixes' from local chemists with steroid-based creams, which provide instant relief from itching but suppress skin's local immunity, allow fungus to spread and grow deeper, and mask symptoms until infection becomes severe

HOW TO BREAK THE CYCLE

1 Laundry wise: Wash infected person's clothes, towels, and bedsheets separately in hot water
2 Single user: Don't share soaps, towels or bed space during infection period
3 Fabric first: Switch to loose cotton clothing. Avoid denims, leggings, and gym wear until fully cleared by doctor
4 Keep it dry: After bathing, ensure skin folds (underarms, groin, between toes) are completely dry before dressing
5 Finish course: Even if skin looks perfect, continue medication for full prescribed duration. Always consult a dermatologist before stopping treatment

Dr Manjunath M Shenoy, professor of dermatology at Yenepoya Medical College, Mangalore and lead author of the study, points to two culprits: a common family towel and soap bar. "Our study revealed a high prevalence of exchanging these items. In a typical Indian household, the lines between personal and shared property/items are blurred, creating a perfect highway for the fungus to travel," he says.

> This is no longer the ringworm we knew a decade ago. The new strain is uniquely resilient to standard treatments. Using steroids on ringworm causes the fungus to proliferate wildly. It masks the symptoms while the infection grows deeper
>
> **Dr Ananta Khurana,** DERMATOLOGIST

It's not just about sharing; it is about the environment the fungus gets to thrive. T. indotineae grows best on moist skin, especially within skin folds. "Hence, the problem becomes worse in summers and in humid weather when we sweat more. It is important to wear loose cotton clothing during these times as cotton is both mild on skin and absorbs sweat," says Dr Khurana.

The multi-centric study also revealed that 54% of patients regularly wear tight-fitting clothes such as heavy denim jeans or synthetic leggings, which trap moisture. "The skin needs to breathe to heal," says Dr Pradyumna Vaidya, a dermatologist at Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune. "We see a direct correlation between denims and recalcitrant infections. We now prescribe light cotton clothing as strictly as we prescribe medication."

Dr Vaidya insists that breaking the chain of transmission requires a complete lifestyle overhaul. "Infected patients must abandon tight jeans and thick fabrics." The shared laundry basket could also pose a hazard. Experts suggest that clothes touching infected areas must be laundered separately in hot water. For a busy household, these extra steps — separate soaps, separate towels, separate laundry — can feel like a burden, but they are the only way to "starve" the infection, he stresses.

Make a hygiene pact

Perhaps the most dangerous player in this crisis is the "quick fix". Across India, steroid-based creams are sold over the counter (OTC) as easily as candy. These creams are really wolf in sheep's clothing. They provide instant relief by suppressing inflammation, but actually weaken the skin's local immunity. "Using steroids on ringworm causes the fungus to proliferate wildly. It masks the symptoms while the infection grows deeper," warns Dr Khurana. By the time the patient sees a dermatologist, the fungus has spread to multiple areas and the skin may have permanent, disfiguring scars.

Even when the right medication is prescribed, as soon as the visible redness fades and the itching stops, many patients stop their treatment. "Incomplete treatment is the single most important factor in recurrence," says Dr Rajib Kumar Gogoi, a skin specialist based in Guwahati. Patients mistake "feeling better" for "being cured". But when treatment is cut short, the strongest fungal spores survive, leading to a resurgence that is even harder to kill.

The solution isn't just a better cream; it's a better system. Dermatologists are calling for a total ban on OTC sale of strong steroid cocktails and stricter regulations on oral antifungal drugs. Until then, the burden of care lies within the home. It requires a 'hygiene pact' among family members: no sharing, no scratching, and no stopping the medicine early.

As Dr Shenoy notes, dermatological services are often free in govt hospitals and medical colleges, so there's no reason to rely on a chemist's guesswork. For Roshan's family, and thousands like them, the lesson is hard-learned: the infection only leaves when the whole house changes its ways.

TOI HealthTech

Get well soon? A blood test aims to predict if you will

Wondered why the same infection affects two people differently, easing in a few days for one while landing the other in hospital? Scientists from Imperial College, London have hit upon a method to foretell how disease could progress in a patient from gene expressions in their blood

What's it called?

Called **VeloCD**, this method was tested on blood samples from:

- 400 kids across Europe, who were hospitalised with fever
- Healthy adults, after viral exposure in controlled settings, to see if they get flu or Covid-19
- Those with HIV, tuberculosis, and inflammatory bowel disease to highlight complications and response to treatment

> This type of test could greatly benefit patients and healthcare staff. Offering medics a test that can predict the course of illness could help them to triage patients much faster, getting the right treatment to the right patient at the right time
>
> **Aubrey Cunnington,** HEAD, INFECTIOUS DISEASES DEPT, IMPERIAL COLLEGE, LONDON

How does it work?

- When we're sick, our cells switch genes 'on' and 'off' in a synchronised immune response
- Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) messenger molecules in blood, which carry DNA commands to regulate cellular processes, can be a 'fingerprint' pointing to what's causing illness
- VeloCD uses bioinformatics to go beyond illness cause and understand how it will affect our bodies
- RNA velocity, an existing method used to map what happens to single stem cells (whether they turn to skin or blood based on gene expression), was applied to analyse blood samples with millions of cells
- So, instead of a single cell, this approach helped predict clinical fate of person as a whole

It's like a computer programme...

When genes get activated, their DNA is unzipped, read & transcribed, with an RNA copy of data

But raw RNA has non-coding regions (introns) & needs to be processed before cells can use it

More raw RNA than processed RNA in blood means illness is getting worse. Opposite means infection is subsiding

What next?

Researchers have filed for a patent and aim to refine this method into a quick "point of care" test where, by looking at a few key RNA markers, doctors can decide whether a patient needs to be hospitalised or can safely recover at home

Source: Imperial College, London

WHICH ONE IS HEALTHIER?

Kulfi falooda	1 serving	Chia pudding
350-500	CALORIES	180-250
45-70g	CARBS	12-18g
6-8g	PROTEIN	6-10g
15-25g	FAT	10-15g
30-50g	Sugar	4-8g
1-3g	FIBRE	8-12g

Source: **Ishi Khosla**, clinical nutritionist and author, 4G Code to Good Health

Kulfi falooda is milk thickened & frozen, topped with sabja seeds, vermicelli, rose syrup & sugar. Chia pudding is chia seeds topped with milk, fruits/nuts, & a mild sweetener. Kulfi falooda is low-fibre & high on calories, fat, sugar, which can cause an insulin spike. Chia pudding is low-GI, high-fibre (gut health, satiety), & better for metabolic health. Kulfi falooda is an occasional treat, but chia pudding is functional food.

Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited
(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001 & ISO 50001 Certified Company)
Regd. Office: P.O.Narmadanagar - 392015, Dist.: Bharuch (Gujarat), India
CIN: L24110GJ1976PLC002903, Website: www.gnfc.in

TENDOR NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF PMC FOR UPGRADATION OF GNFC'S EXISTING EHV SUBSTATION FROM SINGLE BUS (NON-REDUNDANT) SYSTEM TO DOUBLE BUS (REDUNDANT) SYSTEM AT BHARUCH COMPLEX.

Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (GNFC) invites bid from Project Management Consultant (PMC) for upgradation of GNFC's existing EHV Substation from Single Bus (non-redundant) system to Double Bus (redundant) system at Bharuch complex, Gujarat. Interested applicants can access the E-tender document uploaded on the website: https://www.gnfc.in.

Applicants are requested to submit their detailed response on or before, Date: 3rd June 2026, 5.00 PM

BHARATPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Sr. No :- Tech/BDA/2026-27/5889 Date :- 15/05/2026

CORRIGENDUM ONLINE NIT No. 03 (2026-27)

This is with reference to the above-mentioned NIT/RFP document. The following amendments/modifications are hereby issued and shall be read as part of the original NIT/BOQ:

Point No. 01 – Boq Sheet-1
The Total Amount "with taxes" mentioned in the document shall be read as Total Amount "excluding GST".

Point No. 02 – Boq Sheet-1 (BOQ Item No. 04)
Surface Aerator/Mixer
This item stands deleted from the BOQ.

Point No. 03 – Boq Sheet-1 (Item No. 08)
Nano Bubble Aeration System (4 Sets)
Scope of Work:
Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Nano Bubble Aeration System (4 sets) integrated with existing operational aeration system.
The system shall be compatible with the existing aeration system and designed for improvement of dissolved oxygen levels through nano bubble generation technology.
Motor Capacity:
- Earlier: 1.5 – 2 HP
- Revised: 5 – 7.5 HP

Point No. 04 – Boq Sheet-1 (BOQ Item No. 02)
Aspirating Aerator (Floating Type) (Cycl Oxy or equivalent)
Providing, supplying, installation, testing and commissioning of Aspirating Aerator for aeration of water bodies to improve Dissolved Oxygen (DO) levels.
The system shall operate on the principle of aspiration of atmospheric air through a hollow shaft and dispersion into water via rotating air jet screw/propeller, creating fine bubble aeration for efficient oxygen transfer, mixing, and removal of dissolved gases such as CO_2, H_2S and VOCs, thereby improving water quality and preventing septic conditions.
Technical Specifications:
Type: Aspirating Aerator (Floating Type)
Motor: Energy efficient, continuous duty, IP-55 or higher an other specification same as boq.

Note:
All other terms and conditions of the original NIT/RFP/BOQ shall remain unchanged.

Point No. 06 – Boq Sheet-1 (Item No. 23)
Package DSTP
Design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Package DSTP including civil interface, mechanical installation and complete system integration.
The system shall be based on advanced treatment technology such as **MBBR / ASP / Nano Hybrid Process** or equivalent.

Capacity & Performance Requirements:
- Capacity: 250 KLD
- BOD: < 10 mg/l
- COD: < 50 mg/l

Automation System:
- PLC based control system
- SCADA enabled monitoring and operation
- Fully automated system operation

Point No. 05 – Boq Sheet-2 (Item No. 18)
The description remains unchanged; however, the quantity is revised as follows:
- Earlier Quantity: 2520 RM
- Revised Quantity: 2600 RM

This correction shall be applicable in both Bid Document and BOQ.
And the last date for uploading/submission of tender documents, which was previously scheduled as 18.05.2026, has been extended up to 29.05.2026, and opening date 01.06.2026 time 11.000 AM.

Note:
All other terms and conditions of the original NIT/RFP/BOQ shall remain unchanged.

Executive Engineer
BDA, Bharatpur
Raj.Samwad/C/26/3085

KARNATAKA VETERINARY, ANIMAL & FISHERIES SCIENCE UNIVERSITY BIDAR
No:KVAFSU/2026-27/SE018 Date: 18.05.2026

Short Term Tender Notification

Inviting short term tender for procurement of various types of poultry feeds for Veterinary College, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru for one year through E-portal, Government of Karnataka (eProc-106).
University is inviting e-bidding on KPP Portal of Govt. of Karnataka for procurement of various types of poultry feeds of approx. 275 tons to Veterinary College, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru for one year.
e-Tender documents should be submitted electronically through e-Procurement portal (**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) and last date for submission of tenders **on 01.06.2026 before 15.00 Hrs.** For further information please contact Tender processing cell, Regional office, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru 560024, Phone: 9845313244, 9343999599 during office hours.

Sd/-
Co-Ordinator,
Tender Processing Cell, KVAFSU
DIPR/CP/JA/735/2026-27

ZILLA PANCHAYATH TUMKUR
O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division Tumkur.
No: EE/PRED/TmK/ TND No-04/2026-27 Dated: 15.05.2026
KPP-Procurement Tender Notice
One & Two Cover System

The Tender is inviting through KPP-procurement on behalf of government of Karnataka by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Tumkur Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Scheme for the year 2025-26, Government Pre-University Colleges Classroom Repair Scheme for the year 2025-26, 5054-SCP/TSP for the year 2025-26, 2024-25 social Wellfare Department Scheme, Women and Child Development Department Grant for the year 2025-26 and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Integration Project, Government Primary and High School Classroom Repair Work Project for the year 2024-25 (4202-01-201-04-422), Under PM Shri Yojana for the year 2025-26 for the Indent Number : (Indent No: 1.RDPR/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT 26256, 2. RDPR/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT26255, 3. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26238, 4. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26234, 5. RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT22587/CALL-2, 6. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26278, 7. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26242, 8. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26488, 9. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26277, 10. RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT26279)
as per KTTP Act 2000 The Tender Documents can be obtained from the KPP-procurement Web Site and submitt the details on Dated 15.05.2026. to 21.05.2026. upto 5.00 pm. Further details can be obtained through website at http://www.KPPP.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Tumkur
DIPR/TUM/76/KSMCA/2026-27

Karnataka Institute of Endocrinology & Research, Bengaluru
(An Autonomous Regd. Institute of Govt. of Karnataka)
Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, Bengaluru -560038
Ph: +91-80-25283013, +91-80-24492900
Website: www.kierbengaluru.karnataka.gov.in

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for **Group A cadre 07 posts** in Karnataka Institute of Endocrinology and Research, Indiranagar, Bengaluru on contractual basis. The Application form and other details are given in the institute website: **www.kierbengaluru.karnataka.gov.in**
Application fee of **Rs.500/- (Rupees Five Hundred only) (non refundable)** in the form of **DD should be obtained in favour of "The Director, KIER, Bengaluru"**. Last date for submission of application to the Institute is **on or before 02.06.2026 before 04.30 pm.**

Sd/- Chief Administrative Officer,
KIER, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/JA/732/2026-27

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society
(An Organisation of Govt. of Karnataka)
No. 8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560 052
No:KREIS/EE-3/Tender-03/2026-27 Date:18.05.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Only)

The tenders have been invited for Construction of Bhavana work, Infrastructure works and Electrical repair work in the jurisdiction of KREIS **(Tender Indent No. 822,595/Call-2 and 332/Call-2)** through e-Portal vide website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 18.05.2026. The last date for receipt of the tender is 18.06.2026 and 03.06.2026. The details may be viewed at above website.
Note: Any changes in term tender notification will not be published in dailies. It will be published in e-procurement portal only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer-3,
KREIS, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/733/CCL/2026-27

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
E- Tender Notice
Tender Notice No: PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/26/15, Dated: 14/05/2026. PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in.** for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On;Tender Cost** are as follows: **[035]; 14253010;** Supply, Installation And Commissioning Of Electrically Operated Wind Screen Wiper Assembly Complete With Wiper Motor, Wiper Arm With Blade & Pipe Connections & Water Spray Wind Screen Washing System Including Connections/Tube & Fittings Complete For WAG-9HC/WAP-7/WAP-5 Locomotives To DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/0674; As Per Tender/ Document; **03/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[036]; 14263011;** Blower for Traction Motor (Motor to be supplied by Railways as free item to Blower manufacturers). Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0019/G; As Per Tender/ Document; **04/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[037]; 31265008;** Set of kit items for implementation of RDSO modifications in Panels and Harnessed Cable as per scope of supply enclosed in doc. Tab; As Per Tender/ Document; **09/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[038]; 31262723;** Set of Cable Cleat with Din Rail For TM speen: CLW/ES/3/0045/G; As Per Tender/ Document; **11/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[039]; 31262706;** Auxiliary Compressor Hose As Per CLW Speen No: CLW/ES/3/0309/E; As Per Tender/ Document; **15/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00.
PR1/353 PCMM/CLW/Howrah
Like us on : www.facebook.com/clwrailways

INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University, Govt. of India)
Visakhapatnam Campus, Vangali, Sabbavaram Mandal
Visakhapatnam – 531035.

Admission notification for Lateral Entry Scheme (2026-27)
Indian Maritime University, Visakhapatnam Campus invites applications from eligible candidates into Lateral Entry in Second year of B.Tech (Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering) and B.Tech (Naval Architecture and Ship Building).
For details please see website: www.imuv.edu.in and www.imu.edu.in

-Sd-
DIRECTOR

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering and Mobility Cell, 2nd floor, 9th Main Road, Jayanagara 2nd block, Bengaluru -560011
No:EE/TE & M Cell/BSCC/TEND /05/2026-27/Corr-1 Date:19-05-2026

CORRIGENDUM-1

Subject	Issue of Corrigendum
Reference	Tender Notification No: EE/TE&M Cell/BSCC/TEND/05/2026-27, Date:06-05-2026.

Advertising to the above, following Corrigendum to the above tender's work is issued.

Sl. No.(As per tender notification)	Calendar of Events in Tender Notification	To be Read as
1.	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders is **19-05-2026** at **4:00** pm.	**25-05-2026 at 4:00 pm**
2.	Date & Time for Opening Technical bid on **20-05-2026** at **4:30** pm.	**27-05-2026 at 4:30 pm**

All the other terms & conditions are remaining unchanged.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Traffic Engineering and Mobility Cell, BSCC

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೋಗಾದಿ
ಮೈಸೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ–570026, ದೂ:0821–2331099 Web:www.bogaditown.mrc.gov.in
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_bogadi@yahoo.com
ಸಂ:ಪ.ಪಂ.ಬೋಗಾದಿ/ಆ.ಶಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಿ.ಆರ್.04/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:19.05.2026

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೋಗಾದಿ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು, **KW-1 & KW-3** ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000ದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್.ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಅರ್ಹಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **04.06.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ
2. ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 01 ಮತ್ತು 02ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **27.05.2026 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ3.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
3. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:**06.06.2026ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ. ಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
01	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT54753/CALL-2	62.00	105050
02	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT54752/CALL-2	66.60	112900
03	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT58564	15.00	37500

ಸೂಚನೆ: 1. ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು

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Registrar

GUJARAT METRO RAIL CORPORATION (GMRC) LIMITED
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Systems (Project and O&M) : GM (Traction), DGM (Operations; Traction; Signalling; E&M), Asst. Manager (Operations; Traction; Rolling Stock, Track; Signalling; E&M), Supervisors/ Section Engineers (Operations; Traction; Rolling Stock; E&M; Signalling; Telecom; Track). Last date to apply is **03.06.2026.**

For detailed recruitment notification, please visit career page of our website **www.gujaratmetrorail.com.**

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Experience	Minimum 15 years of post-qualification relevant experience	

For details and application process, scan QR Code / visit "Careers" at www.hudco.org.in

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"Applications are invited for the following posts"

Sr.	Name of Post	Vacancy
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2	Assistant Manager - Urban & Regional Planner	2
3	Assistant Manager - EHS	1
4	Assistant Manager - Roads & Other Infrastructure	1
5	Assistant Manager - Mechanical & Electrical / MEP	2
6	Executive - Civil/Water Resource	4

For details on eligibility criteria, qualification, experience, age limit and other terms & Condition, kindly visit **career** page on our website **www.dholera.gujarat.gov.in/jobs** and apply online.

Applications submitted online on or before **3rd June 2026, 23:59 hrs** will only be valid. **No other mode of applications will be accepted.**

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(formerly known as Sagarmala Development Company Limited)
(A Government of India Enterprise)

Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL), a Mini Ratna Category-I, Schedule 'B' CPSE under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India, invites applications for the following position(s):

Post	No. of Vacancies
Entry-Level Positions on Regular Basis	12
Various Lateral Positions on Regular Basis	9
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Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) on Contract Basis	1
Head of Internal Audit (HIA) on Contract Basis	1

For complete details regarding qualifications, age limit, experience etc., the candidates may refer to the detailed advertisement posted on the official website of SMFCL at **www.sdclindia.com under Careers Section.**

Last date of application submission is 18.06.2026.

BLDE Association
Smt. Bangaramma Sajjan Campus, B.M. Patil Road, Vijayapur-586 103, Karnataka
Ph: 08352-262770, E-mail: careers@bldea.org

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Qualification, Experience and Salary: As per AICTE norms.

Preference: Candidates passed from IITs, and having strong research background with publications in reputed journals/ IPRs will be preferred.

Shri. Sanganabasava Mahaswamiji College of Pharmacy and Research Centre, Vijayapura

- **Professor/Associate Professor/ Assistant Professor**: Pharmaceutics, Pharmacognosy, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance, Pharmacy Practice

Qualification, Experience and Salary: As per PCI norms.

Preference: Candidates qualified in GPAT, having industrial experience and strong research background with publications in reputed journals/ IPRs will be preferred.

School of Business Studies (A. S. Patil College of Commerce- Autonomous).

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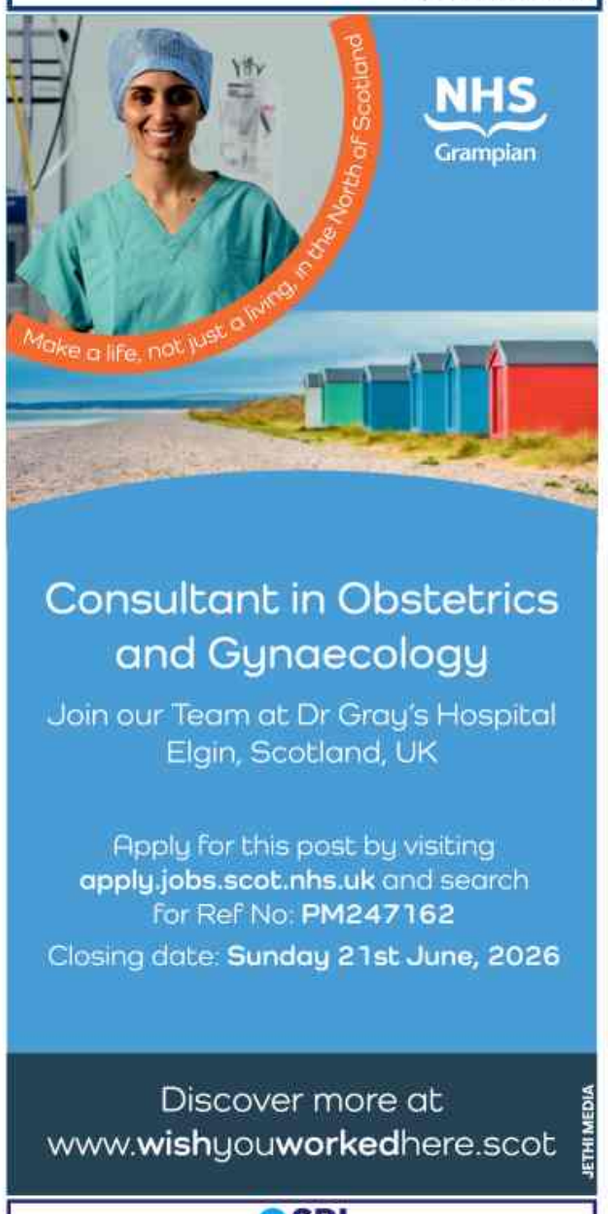
Qualification, Experience and Salary: As per AICTE & UGC norms.

Qualified, competent and eligible candidates are invited to submit the applications along with detailed bio-data, copies of educational qualifications, and all the relevant testimonials through **Email: careers@bldea.org** within **Fifteen days** from the date of advertisement.

Date: 20-05-2026

Sd/
General Secretary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(Advertisement No. CRPD/APPR/2026-27/07)

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for Engagement of Apprentices in State Bank of India.

Number of Apprentices: 7150
Training Period: One year

(CARE: This is a training opportunity under Apprenticeship Act 1961 and not an offer of Employment.)

Eligibility criteria (age, educational qualification, fees, etc.) and other details are available under Advertisement No. CRPD/APPR/2026-27/07 on Bank's website **https://sbi.bank.in/web/careers/current-openings** OR **https://apprenticeshipindia.org** OR **https://nsdcindia.org/apprenticeship** OR **http://bfsissc.com** along with a link for online submission of application.

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees.

- **DATE FOR FILLING ONLINE APPLICATION: 19.05.2026 to 08.06.2026**

For any query, please write to us through link **"CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query"** which is available on Bank's website URL - **https://sbi.bank.in/careers/post-your-query**

Place: Mumbai
Date: 19.05.2026

General Manager (RP&PM)

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For detailed advertisement please visit "Recruitments" section in our website **www.bel-india.in.**

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Name of the Post	Qualification & Experience
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DGM / Sr. Manager Boiler Maintenance Dept.	B.E./B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering with 10–15 years of experience in boiler maintenance of thermal power plants with exposure to boiler systems (preferably CFBC), ESP, APH, Rotary Equipments, pressure parts, and shutdown maintenance activities.
DGM / Sr. Manager Turbine Maintenance Dept.	B.E./B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering with 10–15 years of experience in steam turbine maintenance, auxiliaries, lubrication systems, vibration analysis, alignment, and turbine overhauling activities.
DGM / Sr. Manager Electrical Maintenance Dept.	B.E./B.Tech in Electrical Engineering with 10–15 years of experience in electrical maintenance of thermal power plants including HT/LT systems, switchyard, transformers, generators, motors, and protection systems.
DGM / Sr. Manager Instrumentation Maintenance Dept.	B.E./B.Tech in Instrumentation Engineering with 10–15 years of experience in DCS, PLC, analysers, calibration, field instruments, and thermal power plant instrumentation systems.
DGM / Sr. Manager Material Handling Plant	B.E./B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering with 10–15 years of experience in coal/lignite handling plant and ash handling systems including conveyors, crushers, stackers, reclaimers, weighbridges and ash disposal systems.

These are contractual roles for an initial period of Five (5) years, extendable based on performance.
For further details, **please visit: www.gmdcltd.com**

GMDC Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.

General Manager - HR
GMDC Ltd. 'Khanij Bhavan', 132 Feet Ring Road, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad – 380 052, Gujarat, India

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भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान शिलॉंग | Indian Institute of Management Shillong

RECRUITMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

No. B1-2302/3/2026-ADMN/62 **18 May 2026**

Indian Institute of Management Shillong invites application for the post of **Joint General Manager (Finance)** at Pay Level-13 with initial Basic pay of Rs. 1,23,100/-.

For more details, please visit our website **https://www.iimshillong.ac.in/careers/**

The last date of Online application is **23 June 2026.**

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer

Bal Bharati Public School
An Institution of the Child Education Society (Regd.)
Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi, Affiliation Number:830907
Mahashakti Nagar (NTPC Township) TQ: Basavana Bagewadi, Distt. Vijayapura, Karnataka-586121
Email – bbpskudgi@balbharati.org Website: https://bbpskudgi.balbharati.org/

An established secondary institution affiliated with CBSE invites applications for the following positions:

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Self-motivated, goal-oriented, and experienced academician with requisite qualifications and administrative experience, strictly in accordance with CBSE norms.

TGT-Social Science

Graduate/PG in History/ Geography with B.Ed. and CTET qualification.

The application form can be downloaded from the school website. Completed applications must be submitted to the School Manager at **rekha.sharma@balbharati.org** within 10 days from the date of advertisement.

Note: Accommodation in NTPC township premises, electricity, Water benefits at subsidized rates will be provided to the selected candidates. **Principal**

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
Address : 17th Floor, Hindustan Times House Building, Kasturbha Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – 110 001

NICDC invites applications for the following posts:

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Min. Experience Required (Years)	Number of Post	Job Type
1.	Deputy General Manager - Projects & Technical	17	1	• Regular • Salary - As per NICDC's Pay Structure (Flexible)
2.	Assistant Manager - Project Management (PM Mitra)	4	1	
3.	Expert - Medical Value Travel	10	1	• Contractual Engagement for 5 Years on full time/ part-time basis • Salary - Negotiable as per Industry Standards
4.	Expert - Manufacturing Ecosystems & Industrial Clusters	10	1	
5.	Expert - Public Private Partnership	15	1	

- Interested candidates may visit the NICDC website for more details and apply online at **www.nicdc.in (Careers> Current Opening> Apply Online)** on or before **3rd June, 2026 by 17:00 HRS.** No other mode of application shall be accepted/entertained.
- Actual number of posts may vary depending upon the suitability of candidates.

CONTRAPUNTO

Once your kids are grown and you know that you're completely healthy, consider cancelling your life insurance policy

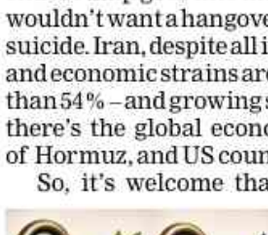
– SUZE ORMAN

Sense & Insurance

Irdai is right, insurers should put customers before shareholders. CEO incentives are a good place to start

Insurance is a business, but it's no ordinary business. It exists to provide financial stability to families when a breadwinner dies, and to shield monthly budgets from hospital bills, and cracked windshields. So, unlike hair salons and cafes, it *shouldn't* be driven by the profit motive alone. But it is, and not just in India, as the killing of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson in Dec 2024 reminded us. Why don't insurance and greed sit well together? Because an insurer with a profit-first business model isn't above misselling – pitching unsuitable products to customers – pumping premiums, and arbitrarily denying claims. And insurance regulator Irdai has repeatedly flagged these problems in India.

So, Irdai's new guidance to insurers, to link CEO pay to customer outcomes, is welcome. Essentially, it's asking insurers to put customers, not shareholders, first. When CEO pay is linked to how satisfied customers are – measured by complaints against a company and regulatory breaches – the incentive structure changes. Greater transparency, better quality of service are key to growing business. In fact, they are pillars of any customer-centric business, from cookies to cars. Doing business honestly may result in lower profits this year, but a far bigger business in five years. Beyond linking executive pay to quality of service, Irdai wants penal clauses, or clawbacks, so that CEOs who don't deliver have to surrender some of their remuneration.



Irdai has also expressed concern about upper management cornering a disproportionate share – up to 14% – of overall compensation. It says the pay gap between highest and lowest paid CEOs in life insurance is about ₹16cr, which rises to almost ₹23cr in general insurance. Are the highest paid CEOs being rewarded for delivering shareholder-pleasing results? That seems to be Irdai's apprehension. Its 2024-25 annual report shows that complaints of misselling rose 14% over the previous year. In March, govt said the two main complaints against insurers relate to keeping claims pending (15%), and denying claims without a reason (6.5%). An image problem of that kind can slow down insurance coverage, which has become a necessity as healthcare and other costs rise. Insurers should pay heed.

Way To Make Peace

Trump unfreezes Iran assets & lifts sanctions. Iran lifts Hormuz blockade

In an interview to this newspaper, former US special representative for North Korea, Stephen Bosworth, had said the art of diplomacy is getting your opponent to agree to a deal because it is in their interest. Applying the same logic to the Iran war, both Washington and Tehran have ample reasons to bring the conflict to a negotiated end. Trump goes into midterm polls later this year, and he certainly wouldn't want a hangover of the war till then – that would be political suicide. Iran, despite all its bravado, has been badly hit by this conflict, and economic strains are showing. There's runaway inflation – more than 54% – and growing shortages of essentials. And then, of course, there's the global economic pain caused by the Iranian blockade of Hormuz, and US counter-blockade of Iran ports.

So, it's welcome that Trump on Monday decided to hold off resuming attacks on Iran, after Tehran sent a revised proposal to end the war. But again, Iran is asking for the moon – reparations, ending hostilities on all fronts, exit of US forces from areas close to Iran, lifting of sanctions, release of frozen assets, and end to the US blockade.

Plus, Iran wants de facto, if not de jure, sovereignty over Hormuz, potentially instituting a permanent toll system. That's completely unacceptable, and against maritime law. It also sets a dangerous precedent – if Iran is allowed to control a crucial international waterway, through which a fifth of global oil and natural gas flowed in peacetime, what stops others from following suit? China could similarly seize South China Sea. Russia, the Arctic.

Hence, the only reasonable deal for both sides would be US lifting sanctions on Iran and unfreezing Iranian assets – even partially – in exchange for Tehran lifting its blockade on Hormuz, unconditionally. Both sides can then set a timeframe – from 30 to 60 days – to negotiate on the Iran nuclear issue. If Tehran reneges on the latter, or plays truant, snapback provisions kick in to reimpose sanctions on Iran. Understandably, both Trump and Iran want to save face. But they shouldn't pop their own jugular in the process.

Roadside recipes

Thanks to chaat, Indian cuisine is literally streets ahead of the competition

Jug Suraiya

India's food is as varied as are its people, in their customs and their clothes, their languages and their creeds.

Among this daunting diversity, there are some commonalities. The most obvious of these, of course, is democracy. Another is Bollywood.

With its swooning romance and sobbing heartbreak, its high drama and slapstick comedy, its heroic derring-do and base villainy, a Bollywood blockbuster has something for everyone, a seasoning for all tastes, and a taste for all seasons.

Indian street food is Bollywood in edible avatar, combining with irresistible zest the savoury and the sweet, the fire of spice and the coolth of curd, harmonising varying tastes and textures into a symphony of savour, full of the vitality and emphatic energy of urban India.

This year's *MasterChef Australia* contest was won by an Indian-origin contestant whose entry, Katori Chaat – a lattice-work bowl of flour and potato filled with mashed chickpeas mixed with yogurt and drizzled with a date and tamarind reduction, all topped with a mint-coriander chutney – was lauded by the judges as being "fun and vibrant" with a remarkable "depth despite being entirely vegetarian", pipping at the post rivals in the form of Butterfly Trout, Oxtail Ravioli, and Quail.

second*opinion*

This is not the first time that Indian street snacks, generically called chaat, have been accorded accolades on the globally-watched TV show.

Previously, a Delhi-born chef proved a winner with his take on the Raj Kachori, a jumbo-sized poori stuffed with a mixture of potato, sprouts, chickpeas, dahi, a medley of chutneys, and a sprinkling of crisp sev as a topping. A veritable feast for the eyes as well as the tastebuds.

What in western India is called panipuri has also made the honours list on the Australian show, and deservedly so as it merits being hailed as the wholly trinity in the world of chaat, having no fewer than three names to its credit.

Called panipuri in Gujarat and Maharashtra, in north India it's called golgappa, and in Bengal its alias is puchka.

A mouthful in more ways than one, this street food will give the international culinary community much to chit-chaat about.

Why Elon Lost The Fight With Sam

Musk's lawsuit against OpenAI and Altman was always a personal, petulant battle, about their ambitions to command the future of humanity. For SpaceX boss, this means the loss is acutely painful

Arnab Ray

LA-based computer scientist

On Monday, a federal jury in Oakland, California took less than two hours to find against Elon Musk, in his lawsuit against OpenAI, its leadership (Sam Altman, Greg Brockman), and its biggest investor (Microsoft). But what was billed as an epic battle between Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader (we may argue whether Altman is Vader or Musk) turned out to be a damp squib. As if the epic battle between Luke and Vader never happened – because they forgot to charge their lightsabers!

The verdict was not a 'who won' and 'who lost'. But simply that Musk had waited too long to sue. Timing, in litigation as in cricket, is everything.

Musk's complaint against the OpenAI crew was something like this: 'As a founder, I gave around $45mn to OpenAI on the understanding it was a nonprofit, and you turned it into a money-printing operation valued at $852bn.'

In the court of public opinion, Musk's framing was that his was a principled stance. Altman, whom he has called at different times "Swindly Sam" and "Scam Altman", had, as alleged by Musk, gone back on his word to keep OpenAI as a nonprofit, and instead had transferred nearly three-quarters of a charity into a profit-making company, using accounting and contractual sleights of hand.

In US, a nonprofit means you are allowed to make profits, but the profits must be re-invested in the business, maybe paid out as salaries for actual work put in, but not distributed to the owners. However, the original "nonprofit" OpenAI had diluted its share in the company such that, by late 2025, it was reported that the original nonprofit now held 26% of the "for profit" OpenAI, Microsoft held around 27%, and the remaining 47% was spread across investors and employees.

So, as restitution for what he termed as a breach of trust, Musk wanted around $130bn in damages, not for himself, but to be put back into OpenAI, to convert it back into what it was originally supposed to be, a nonprofit, and oh yes, also remove Altman, OpenAI's CEO, and Brockman, its president, from their leadership positions.

OpenAI had its defence. Technically, the original nonprofit does exist, and they are still in control, and can appoint and remove directors, and dilution of equity is a legitimate way for mission-driven nonprofits to raise money from the market. There was also no legally binding contract with Musk to stay fully a nonprofit, nothing in the certificate of incorporation, nor in any donor restriction of the $45mn.

A gentleman's agreement is not legally enforceable, and well, no one here is a gentleman. That was OpenAI's most damaging blow to the "principled stance" of Musk: they produced evidence in court arguing that the X-man himself had wanted to turn OpenAI into a for-profit corporation.

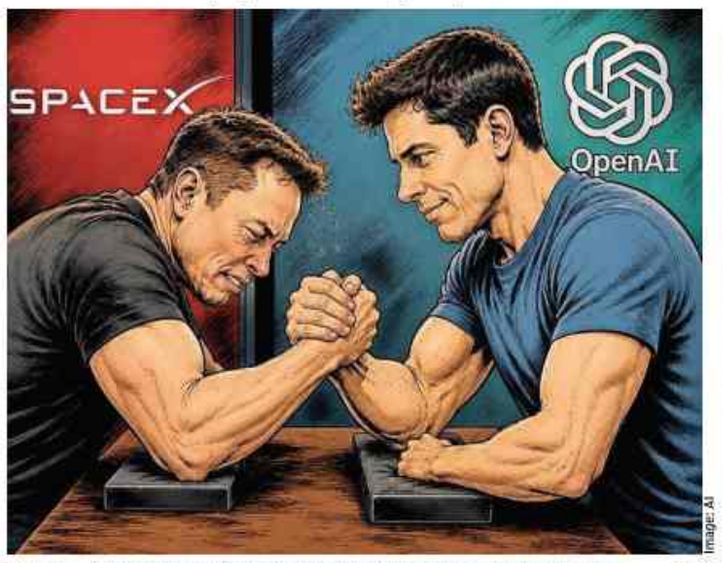


Image: AI

Twice.

OpenAI's lawyers produced evidence that Musk had registered a public benefit corporation called "Open Artificial Intelligence Technologies" on Sept 15, 2017, and proposed it as the for-profit successor to OpenAI, with him as the lead. The rest of OpenAI's braintrust (Altman, Brockman, Sutskever) refused to hand over OpenAI's keys to Musk.

In Jan 2018, Musk tried an even more audacious move, proposing that OpenAI be spun off into a subsidiary of Tesla, a publicly traded for-profit company he controlled. This, too, got rejected by the rest of the OpenAI gang. And this was when Musk resigned from the board of OpenAI. By 2023, he had built his own rival to OpenAI: xAI.

Then, in 2025, Musk led a consortium that made a bid of $97.4bn, to buy the nonprofit "part" of OpenAI. According to Musk, this was his last-ditch attempt to rescue the original mission of OpenAI. But according to the board, which rejected the bid promptly, it was another attempt at power-grab.

The "you missed your window" argument of the jury basically comes down to the fact that Musk, if indeed he had strong objections to OpenAI selling off large portions of its business for profit, could have brought this lawsuit earlier.

By California law, he had a three-year period within which to bring a legal objection, and there had been multiple triggers. OpenAI first spun off its for-profit part in March 2019, Microsoft first put $1bn into that arm in July 2019, and Microsoft secured an exclusive licence to GPT-3 in Sept 2020, a development that prompted Musk himself to tweet that OpenAI had been "captured by Microsoft".

And yet, Musk brought the suit only on Feb 29, 2024, more than three years after the last of the very obvious triggers, one that he had a very public opinion on, had passed. Critics will say the reason he waited was because he himself was trying to bring OpenAI as a for-profit under his control, and it was only after being repelled multiple times that he went to court.

Musk says he will appeal. The story may not be over.

Well, what does all of this mean? Besides the drama of seeing the private chats of the emperors of the world being revealed to the public, nothing much. Musk's SpaceX (which acquired xAI in Feb this year) is rumoured to be going public this year, and so is Anthropic, with OpenAI also in the mix, and the valuations for each will be astronomical. In that light, this can be seen as a high-stakes corporate battle between two of the biggest players in the space.

Or, it can be seen as a personal, petulant battle between two of the richest and most opinionated men in the world, driven by egos with a trillion parameters, and ambitions that encompass the fate of humanity itself.

We Know ABC Works For Strays, But We Don't Learn It

SC's order sidesteps many practical problems, and it can lead to arbitrary removal of some peaceful dogs from institutional areas. That's neither humane nor a solution

Shaleen Attre

Supreme Court's order, yesterday, on community dogs, offers partial reassurance, given how polarised the stray dog debate has become. By upholding Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, SC has reaffirmed that indiscriminate culling cannot become state policy.

Sterilisation & vaccination remain the legal framework to manage dog populations. That matters. SC has also directed states to strengthen veterinary infra, scale up ABC centres, improve waste management around public spaces, and ensure sterilisation & vaccination of dogs removed from institutions and public areas.

On paper, the directions attempt to address longstanding implementation gaps. The concern, however, is whether a system that has struggled for over two decades to implement even basic ABC infra, can realistically sustain large-scale capture, confinement, sterilisation, vaccination and long-term monitoring, alongside these expanded obligations. The most basic requirement for implementation and impact evaluation is accurate dog census – data India doesn't have.

SC also held that allowing community dogs to remain in institutions and certain public spaces interferes with effective functioning of those places. So, dogs are to be removed from locations such as hospitals, schools etc. Yet the practical realities of implementing such a model in an open country like India remain unclear.

Public areas like bus stands, railway stations aren't sealed environments. Territorial vacuums will be filled by other animals. The scale of what this actually means, on the ground, has barely entered public discussion. India has lakhs of educational institutions. Depending on how the order is interpreted and implemented, the number of dogs associated with educational campuses alone could well run into crores.

Where will the animals be housed, fed and medically monitored? Who pays for it? Large-scale sheltering of healthy and unhealthy dogs concentrates disease, increases stress, overwhelms veterinary capacity and creates conditions for outbreaks. Given India's size, this isn't a solution but an impending public health crisis.

SC stated that existing infra can handle the process. It observed that NGOs and citizens should support implementation. But this assumption, itself, raises questions. For over two decades, municipalities have struggled to even have temporary ABC holding centres, for animals to be housed a few days post-sterilisation. India has struggled to implement basic sterilisation & vaccination programmes.

On what evidentiary basis are we assuming that existing infra can now suddenly absorb such a massive additional custodial burden? SC acknowledged concerns about certain NGOs involved in ABC implementation, and advised municipalities to undertake due diligence before awarding contracts.

But recognising governance failures is not resolving them. Concerns regarding ABC-centre

overcrowding, inflated sterilisation claims, illegal euthanasia, missing animals and financial irregularities have already emerged countrywide. Expanding confinement systems, without independent oversight, risks reproducing the same failures on a larger scale.

Inconsistent official data on dog bites more likely reflect changes in reporting systems, rather than epidemiology itself. Anti-rabies vaccine delivery data is often used as proxy for bite incidence. Parliamentary replies have, at times, attributed rabies bites and deaths specifically to "stray dogs", while other govt datasets refer simply to "dogs" without distinguishing between pets and community animals.

It's murkier when bite figures are juxtaposed with rabies mortality data. Official rabies death numbers, in National Health Profile, show low absolute numbers of rabies deaths, with sharp year-to-year fluctuations. Many states report zero cases, and repeated caveats about provisional and incomplete data. Reported deaths in 2018 and 2019 were nearly identical at 116 and 118, while later drops likely reflect reporting gaps, not biological change.

This distinction matters. Two separate, though linked, issues are repeatedly conflated. The first is rabies control, a public-health challenge across species. The second is dog population management, and rising intolerance towards animals in shared spaces. Confusing one for the other leads to poor policy.

Rabid dogs are already legally euthanised, or isolated until natural death. Under the original ABC framework, sterilised & vaccinated community dogs were returned to their territories, unless rabid. The present approach, however, creates a parallel system in which peaceful community dogs risk being permanently removed from institutions and public spaces, irrespective of whether they ever displayed aggression or caused harm. In practice, a community dog's fate may now depend less on its actual behaviour, and more on where it happens to live.

Upshot – many dogs now face displacement, not because sterilisation & vaccination failed, but because their implementation remained partial, inconsistent for decades. India risks drifting towards a fragmented hybrid model of selective removals, overcrowded shelters and inconsistent sterilisation, while still failing to address the underlying drivers of abandonment, waste access, poor vaccination coverage and weak enforcement.

None of this means public safety concerns are unimportant. But sustainable public health policy cannot be built on optics, or symbolic removals alone. India doesn't need reactionary measures presented as systemic reform. It needs transparent data, sustained sterilisation and vaccination programmes, proper waste management, anti-abandonment enforcement, public rabies awareness, and genuine accountability for how public money allocated towards ABC implementation has been spent for over 25 years. Otherwise, we risk creating a larger crisis, while merely relocating the old one out of sight.

The writer is a researcher focusing on human-animal coexistence, public health & human-wildlife conflict mitigation

Calvin & Hobbes

I THINK ANGELS ARE EVERYWHERE.
YOU DO?
THEY'RE ON CALENDARS, BOOKS, GREETING CARDS ... ALMOST EVERY PRODUCT IMAGINABLE.
WHAT A SPIRITUAL AGE WE LIVE IN.

Sacred*space*

Take someone who doesn't keep score, who's not looking to be richer, or afraid of losing, who has not the slightest interest even in his own personality: he's free.

Jalaluddin Rumi

Self-Discipline Enables A Positive Outlook

Arup Mitra

After an enormous struggle, we may move only a small step towards the Truth; however, the invisible hand helping us will never fail us. Such was the belief of the scientist Madame Curie. On the one hand, we face serious challenges in every walk of life and on the other, our mental capacity to deal with them expands enormously with every barrier we encounter. The most desirable attribute to cultivate is self-discipline, it helps us become aware of the mistakes we make in pursuing our own goals. At the same time, it makes us proficient at realising our potential and utilising it skilfully.

It requires a great deal of effort to pursue good action, which may be possible only when we have self-discipline. Otherwise, we tend to repeat selfish deeds. We may try to create fortune and secure our future at the cost of others. Indeed, Yudhishthir, in Mahabharat, mentions that the greatest wonder in the world is that despite realising our transient existence on our visit to a cremation ground, the next moment we behave as if we are going to live on earth forever. Our biggest folly is when people try to deprive others and benefit at their expense, not realising that their unfair action can be the cause of one's loss.

Similarly, gross inequality at societal level is not always the result of differences in endowments and capabilities. Our self-centred actions cause deprivation for others, and inequality begets inequality. Vivekananda said, "Him i call a mahatma, great soul, whose heart bleeds for the poor." Tagore urged that your god stands where the tiller tills the hard ground and where the path maker breaks the stones. It is through self-discipline that we can envision the broader outcome of our individual actions.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Sometimes we are frustrated with the adverse outcomes of our hard work. But the gift of self-discipline teaches us to interpret everything with a positive spirit. For example, we may realise that a painful result contains the seed of innovation, which takes us a step forward. What we sometimes consider the end may be the beginning of an era.

Another virtue associated with self-discipline is the ability to ignore others' follies. If we are unhappy with an individual, our conscience can help us recall benefits we may have received from that person. Such recalling makes our frustrations smaller, and mind revives with positive energy.

If someone is constantly harming us, through self-discipline, we learn not to settle the score. At the same time, we maintain a distance and self-protect in a manner that negativity does not come our way. Forgiveness does not mean that we must trust someone perpetually.

Self-discipline ignites intelligence in a way that one sticks to the path of creativity. The mental energy is greatly enhanced: the closure of one path opens hundreds of alternative channels. These options may already exist, but we were not able to realise them, or, with our enhanced capacity, we may create new options. Both the individual and society can benefit from pursuit of self-discipline.

Why sports bodies run by those who have not played the game, asks SC

Wonders Where Sports Federations Get Funds For So Much Litigation

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Dispute between prez and secy of the Roller Skating Federation of India (RSFI) drew disapproval of a bench of CJI Surya Kant and Justices J Bagchi and V M Pancholi

New Delhi: Peeved by the frequency of litigation involving national sports bodies, mostly administered by non-sportsman politicians, Supreme Court on Tuesday wondered where these federations get so much money to indulge in litigations so often and asked why these are not manned by those who have played the game.

After dealing with litigations relating to reforming national administrative sets ups to weed out corruption and fiefdoms of certain personalities in cricket, football and wrestling, it was the internal dispute between the president and secretary of the Roller Skating Federation of India (RSFI) that drew disapproval of a bench of CJI Surya Kant and Justices J Bagchi and V M Pancholi.

The bench said, "The tragedy of sports federations in India is that they are managed by persons who have never played the game. These should be managed by players. There are many sports bodies who indulge in litigation. Where do they get so much of funds?"

Appearing for petitioner RSFI president Tulsi Ram Agarwal, senior advocate Devadatt Kamat told the bench that since the ouster of the secretary on charges of misuse of funds, there had been a spate of litigation initiated in various HCs which threaten to derail the efforts to host the Asian Roller-Skating Championship at Chandigarh next year.

Kamat requested the court for clubbing the petitions pending in various HCs for an expeditious and holistic decision on all issues to clear the cloud that envelops the functioning of the organisation and hindering preparations for the Asian championship.

But the bench found that the issues involved in petitions before different HCs were separate. It said the RFSI can request each of the HCs to expeditiously decide the cases. The bench said if such a request was made by RFSI, the HCs would consider it sympathetically given the urgency claimed by the federation.

Two Congress MLAs to join Vijay's cabinet tomorrow

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Cong MLAs K Rajesh Kumar and P Viswanathan

Chennai: Chief minister C Joseph Vijay will expand his cabinet by inducting two Congress legislators on Thursday.

Members of the AIADMK faction led by former ministers C Ve Shanmugam and S P Velumani are, however, not to be included in this round of cabinet expansion, sources told **TOI**.

Congress floor leader K Rajesh Kumar (Killiyoor MLA) and P Viswanathan (Melur) are expected to be sworn in at 10am at Lok Bhavan. R V Arlekar, who holds the additional charge of Tamil Nadu governor, is expected to arrive in Chennai on Wednesday night.

Congress leaders said it is a dream coming true. "We will be part of a ministry in Tamil Nadu after six decades," said a Congress leader. He said national leaders of the party are unlikely to attend the swearing-in ceremony. Congress MLA Tharahai Cuthbert (Colachel) had also lobbied for a berth.

Vijay has left nearly 20 departments without ministers, including agriculture, higher education, revenue and disaster management, transport, housing and urban development, MSME, commercial taxes, Hindu religious and charitable endowments and fisheries. The delay was partly linked to plans to induct the AIADMK faction opposed to party general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami.

BJP slams Cong over Vijay's Eelam tribute

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Chennai: Tamil Nadu CM C Joseph Vijay's statement expressing "solidarity for rights of our Tamil kin living across the seas" on the anniversary of the 2009 military offensive against LTTE in northern Sri Lanka led BJP to question Tuesday whether this didn't touch a raw nerve in Congress.

"This is unacceptable. LTTE not only masterminded the killing of our former PM Rajiv Gandhi, but was also responsible for the deaths hundreds of brave jawans of Indian army who had, as part of the Indian Peace Keeping Force, been sent to help restore peace. Yet, Congress decides to keep mum. This is brazen political expediency," former I&B minister Anurag Thakur said.

Court rejects Khalid's plea for 15-day bail

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New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday rejected the interim bail plea of **Umar Khalid**, an accused in the 2020 Delhi riots "larger conspiracy" case, who sought temporary relief to attend the Chehlum ceremony of his late uncle and to take care of his mother ahead of and after her scheduled surgery.

Additional sessions judge Sameer Bajpai of Karkardooma courts dismissed the application seeking interim bail for 15 days.

"No doubt, on previous occasions, not only the applicant but other co-accused persons have been granted interim bail and they never flouted the conditions as imposed by the court, but it doesn't mean that on every occasion, whenever the accused seeks bail, the court should grant it. The court has to consider every fresh application on its own merits and should allow the same only when the grounds are reasonable," the judge said.

Courts not bound by liability cap of nuclear plants: SC

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Getty Images

SHANTI Act caps nuclear plant operator's liability at ₹4,000 cr

New Delhi: Supreme Court Tuesday said courts were not barred from determining govt's additional liability towards citizens in case of an unforeseen nuclear power plant mishap, notwithstanding the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancing of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Act capping operator's liability at Rs 4,000 crore.

The remarks came from a bench of Chief Justice Surya Kanta and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi after petitioner E A S Sarma's advocate Prashant Bhushan said the legislation had capped operator's liability at a paltry Rs 4,000 crore even though the liability towards citizens in case of an accident could run into tens of thousands of crores.

Bhushan said the paltry liability clause would also make foreign suppliers lax in enforcing safety norms, which in turn would make the nuclear power plant a constant threat to lives of citizens living around it. Instead, he argued, if govt could put up solar power plants on 6% of available waste land, it could generate six times more electricity than the present requirement.

The CJI-led bench asked, "Does the Act say that the constitutional court's jurisdiction is barred from entertaining pleas of citizens demanding higher compensation if, God forbid, an unforeseen mishap happens in a nuclear power plant? If the total liability works out to Rs 40,000 crore, the nation in a parliamentary regime can say it can absolve the operator beyond Rs 4,000 crore. But that does not bind the courts from determining the actual liability of the govt towards each citizen affected by the mishap," it said.

SC collegium recommends 19 judges to Madras HC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Attempting to fill a large number of vacancies in Madras High Court, Supreme Court collegium has recommended to Union govt to appoint 10 advocates and nine judicial officers as judges of the HC, which is working with 52 judges against a sanctioned strength of 75. Only four of the 19 recommended judges are women.

The 10 advocates recommended for judgeship are Natarajan Ramesh, G K Muthukumaar, Ramakrishnan Rajesh Vivekananthan, Sankaranarayanan Raveekumar, Nagarajan Dilip Kumar, Ellappan Manoharan, Krishnaswamy Govindarajan, Rajnish Pathiyil, Kandavel Appadurai and lone woman advocate Ramasamy Anitha.

The nine judicial officers recommended for elevation are P Murugan, M D Sumathi, S Alli, C Thirumagal Chandrasekar, Dharmalingam Lingeswaran, Karthikeyan Balathandayutham, Shanmugam Karthikeyan, Baluchamy Murugesan and N Gunasekaran.

Kejriwal, others should appear: New HC bench

Abhinav.Garg
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A new bench of Delhi high court Tuesday asked CBI to inform former CM **Arvind Kejriwal** and AAP functionaries Manish Sisodia and Durgesh Pathak that the liquor policy case stood transferred to it and they should appear.

"Ideal scenario would be if everyone is here and everyone is heard... If they have to say anything or respond to the present petition, let them be served. Once everybody is here, we will draw a schedule of hearing," Justice Manoj Jain said.

A quick roll call of all the respondents revealed only the three AAP functionaries were neither present nor represented by a lawyer. They had earlier announced a boycott of court proceedings after Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma rejected their plea to recuse from the case. Justice Jain listed the case for hearing on May 25 and asked CBI to inform respondents.

India-Nordic summit sees upgrade in ties

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

@narendramodi X

PM Narendra Modi speaks at the 3rd India-Nordic Summit in Oslo on Tuesday alongside PMs of Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden

New Delhi: The third India-Nordic summit saw the two sides upgrading their ties to a green technology and innovation strategic partnership and signing an agreement to leverage India-EU FTA and India-EFTA TEPA, which envisages $100 billion investment into India and came into effect last year, for greater trade, technology and investment linkages.

As the PMs of Nordic countries – Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Norway – held talks with PM Narendra Modi in Oslo, they also concluded six other agreements in areas like climate action, Arctic cooperation, talent mobility and defence industrial collaboration.

Speaking about the talks on global issues, the PM said that in this era of global tension and conflict, India and the Nordic countries will continue to advocate for a rules-based global order. He also underscored India's "clear and united" position on terrorism that there can be "no compromise, no double standards" on the issue, while seeking continued support in the fight against cross-border terrorism.

"And whether in Ukraine or West Asia, we will continue to support efforts for an early end to conflict and peace," he said, adding that both sides agreed on reform of multilateral institutions.

Nordic leaders also reiterated their support for India's permanent membership of UN security council.

Pahalgam attack condemned in joint statement

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In a joint statement on Tuesday, PM Narendra Modi and the Nordic leaders expressed concern over the ongoing Ukraine war, saying it continues to cause immense human suffering and have global consequences.

"They will continue to support efforts towards the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace through dialogue and diplomacy, based on the principles of the UN Charter and of international law," said the statement.

The leaders also expressed deep concern over the situation in West Asia/Middle East and its global ramifications and welcomed the ceasefire announced on April 8, 2026. "They also called for freedom of navigation and global flow of commerce through the Strait of Hormuz, consistent with the provisions of UNCLOS," it said. On Palestine, the leaders called on all parties to respect the ceasefire

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, "MESCOM BHAVANA", Bejai, Mangalore - 575 004
Ph: 0824-2885796 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No: MESCOM/SEE(Proj)/EE(APR)/2026-27/829 Date: 19.05.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP Mode Only)

MESCOM invites tenders for **"Providing electrical infrastructure to regularized IP sets"** on Total turnkey basis under Rate Contract in Shivamogga Zone of MESCOM jurisdiction vide Bid enquiry nos. **MESCOM/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT461 to 477.**

The interested eligible bidders may log on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **20.05.2026.**

Sd/-,
Superintending Engineer (Ele) (Projects)

DIPR/DK/KSMCA/238/26-27 dt: 19.05.2026

For Power Related Complaints contact:
MESCOM Helpline: 1912
9483041912 mescom_official mescom_official

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION
Established under the State Financial Corporation's Act 1951
BRANCH OFFICE: No.271/1, 2nd Floor, Yashodha Complex, B.B. Road, Chickballapur-562101,
Phone No: 08156 -270117, E-mail:cbpr.ksfc@karnataka.gov.in

Sale of Industrial Plot & Shed Through e-auction on "as is where is basis"

NOTICE is hereby given for the sale of industrial plot described herein below, possession of which is taken over symbolically under SARFAESI on 16-04-2021 in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) read with rule 8(6) of Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 will be sold through e-Auction on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** for the recovery of overdues of Rs.53.10 lakhs (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Ten Thousand) as on 10-05-2026 with further interest and other debits in respect of loan of **M/s. D.M.S. Heating Eliments,** No.42, DITP, SW-51, Phase-2, KIADB Industrial Area, Doddaballapura Apparel Park, Doddaballapura, Bangalore Rural District and collateral security owner/guarantor **- Smt. Vijaya K Murthy.**

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of Industrial Plot No.B-8 (belonging to Smt. Vijaya K Murthy) situated at KSSIDC Industrial Estate, Mysore Lamp Ancillary Complex, Tamaka, Kolar, Kolar District measuring East to West 100' and North to South 56' (Totally measuring 5600 Sq.ft) and together with industrial sheds bounded on the East by: Plot No. B-4, West by : Road, North by: Road, South by: B-7.

Reserve Price : Rs. 144.31 lakhs (Rs One Forthy Four Lakhs Thirty one Thousand only) EMD Amount: Rs. 14.45 Lakhs.

Date of Inspection: From 10.30 AM to 1.30 PM on 05-06-2026.

Last date for payment of EMD is 21-06-2026 up to 4.00 PM.

Date of e-auction : From 11.00 AM on 24-06-2026 to 2.00 PM on 02-07-2026.

Terms and Conditions of sale through E-auction are detailed in Website: **http:/www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and **www.ksfc.karnataka.gov.in** For any help Please contact the e-procurement help desk No.080-460-10000, 080-689-48777 at e-procurement cell, 4th Floor, Sri Aravind Bhavan, Mythic Society Compound Nrupatunga Road, Bangalore - 560 001 or KSFC, Branch Office, Chikkaballapura. (Mobile Number : 98455 85875).

This is also 30 days notice required to be issued under the provisions of SARFAESI Act, 2002. The borrowers and guarantors/ property owner can use this opportunity to get better price.

Date: 20.05.2026 Sd/-
Place : Chikkaballapur Branch Manager

JAIPUR CITY TRANSPORT SERVICES LIMITED
No. :- MD/JCTSL/2026-27/D - 456 Date :- 19/05/2026

Corrigendum - 06

This is with reference to JCTSL Bid no 07/2025-26 published on **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** UBN No.JCT2526SLOB00009 and **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**. Tender ID 2026_JCTS_532359_1, Some amendments are made. Detail of amendments can be seen and may be downloaded from above mentioned websites and JCTSL Website **(http://transport.rajasthan.gov.in/jctsl).**

Raj.Samwad/C/26/3141 OSD, JCTSL

UJJAIN SMART CITY LIMITED
Mela Office, Kothi Road, Ujjain (M.P) 456001
Ph. 0734- 2525856

NOTICE INTIVING TENDER

USCL/429 Tender ID: 2026_UAD_508428_1 date 18/05/2026 Ujjain Smart City Limited Invites online bids from eligible bidders - "Selection of Agency for VMS Operation & Maintenance (40 Units) with Advertisement Rights of Ad Slots at Ujjain on Annual License Fee Basis- 4th call". Interested bidders may purchase and submit their proposals online at www. mptenders.gov.in.

Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 2,21,000/
Cost of Tender Document	Rs. 15,000/-
Purchase of Tender Start Date	18/05/2026
Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (Online)	08/06/2026 upto 17:00 hrs

For more details, please visit https:// www.mptenders.gov.in. Any Corrigendum or amendments shall be published on this website only.

For, Ujjain Smart City Limited

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
E-mail : contracts@bmrc.co.in, Website : www.bmrc.co.in
No.BMRCL/Travellator (R5 CSB to Ph2A/P1 CSB)/ Works/RT/2026/148 Dated 20.05.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Managing Director, BMRCL, General Manager (Contracts) invites open e-tenders from eligible applicants, who fulfill the prescribed eligibility cum qualification criteria (EQC) for the work of **"Civil and Structural works including Architectural finishes for Travellator and Connecting Walkway between Reach-5/Phase-2 / Yellow line Central Silk Board Station to Blue line ORR Central Silk Board Station of Bangalore Metro Rail Project, Phase-2A."** Estimated Cost of work: **Rs. 58.99 Cr.** Tender Fee (inclusive of GST): **Rs. 59,000/-.** Tender Security (EMD): **Rs. 58.99 Lakhs**, Sale of Tender documents: **From 20.05.2026 to 19.06.2026.** Date and Submission of tender: **From 12.06.2026 (From 10.00 AM) to 19.06.2026 (up to 3.00 PM) (IST).** Date and time of opening of tender: **20.06.2026 at 3.30 PM (IST).** For more details, visit e-tendering portal: **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app from 20.05.2026 onwards.**

The Tender Notification will also be available in our website **www.bmrc.co.in.**

Sd/-General Manager (Contracts)

THE ANDHRA PRADESH MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
Door No. 294/1D, 100 feet Road (Tadigadapa to Enikepadu Road), Kanuru, Vijayawada — 521137, Andhra Pradesh, India.
Tel: +91-866-2429999 Fax: +91-866-2429977 Email: contracts-ho@apmdc.in

SHORT TERM TENDER

Ref:APMDC/HO/P&C/Science Lab Equipment-APMDC - DAV Model School at Suliyari/2025-26/II, Date:20.05.2026

APMDC invites E-tender from reputed agencies for "Supply of Laboratory Setup Accessories to APMDC-DAV Model School at Suliyari Coal Project, Madhya Pradesh". For more information on the eligibility criteria, tender fees, timelines and other details, please visit APMDC website (**www.apmdc.ap.gov.in**). The Tender document is available for downloading from APMDC website from 20.05.2026 and the last date for submission of bid 26.05.2026.

Place: Vijayawada
Date: 20.05.2026 Sd/- Managing Director, The A. P. Mineral Development Corporation Limited

DIPR No:5101PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt: 19.05.2026

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA Local Head Office, Guwahati - 781006

PRE-QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION OF ARCHITECT AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT (APMC) FOR PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, BRANCH BUILDING AND STATE BANK INSTITUTE OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ON BANK'S PLOT AT DULIAGAON, GARMUR, JORHAT, ASSAM-785007

State Bank of India invites e-tender in two-bid system (Technical bid and Price bid) for prequalification and selection of APMC for the above proposed construction. Pre-qualification criteria and other documents can be downloaded from Bank's website https://sbi.bank.in/ >>>SBI IN THE NEWS under "Procurement News". The last date of submission of the tender is 19.06.2026 upto 3.00 PM. The Bank reserves its right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason(s) whatsoever.

Guwahati Sd/- Assistant General Manager (Premises & Estate)
Date: 20.05.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my clients have agreed to develop and sell the Properties described in (1) Item Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of the Schedule herein, belonging to **Sri. CHANDAN SINGH RANAWAT,** son of Sri. Hanwant Singh Ranawat Ji, residing at First Floor, No. 779, 15th Cross Road, 100 Feet Outer Ring Road, J.P. Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore – 560 078, who has represented that he had purchased the said Lands in terms of Sale Deed dated 04/06/2008 registered on 19/07/2010 as Document No. DNH-1-01545/2010-11 in Book I, and stored in C.D. No. DNHD198 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli, from his Vendor Sri. Suresh Kumar Mehta and (2) Item No. 4 of the Schedule herein belonging to **M/s. DHARANI PROMOTERS PRIVATE LIMITED,** having its registered Office at: No. 779, 15th Cross Road, 100 Feet Outer Ring Road, J. P. Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore – 560 078, who has represented that they purchased the said Property under sale deeds Viz., (i) Sale Deed dated 25/02/2008 registered as Document No. DNH-1-07004/2007-08 of Book I, C. D. No. DNHD149 from his Vendors Sri. Suheel Ahmed Sharif and others, (ii) Sale Deed dated 25/02/2008 registered as Document No. DNH-07007/2007-08 of Book I, stored in C.D. No. DNHD149 from his Vendors Sri. V. Rajesh and others, both Sale Deeds registered in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli. Persons objecting for the proposed development and sale or having any right in the Schedule Lands may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this publication, failing which it shall be presumed that the title of landowners as mentioned in relation to the Schedule Lands are clear, marketable and free from encumbrance/s of any kind whatsoever and no other person has any right, title or interest of any nature whatsoever in the Schedule Lands or any part thereof. Further, claims or alleged interest or objections, if any, which are not received within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice shall be considered to have been consciously waived or abandoned for all intents and purposes. Any objections and/or claims and/or response received thereafter will not be binding on my clients and will proceed to develop and sell the Schedule Lands as if there are no claims/objections.

:SCHEDULE:

All that undeveloped Converted Properties bearing Sy. Nos. 48/3, 48/4, 48/2 and Agricultural Property bearing Sy. No. 198, available within the four boundaries detailed below, situated at Ilthore Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded by:

Sl. Nos.	Sy. Nos.	Extent			East	West	North	South
		Acre	Gunta	Kharab				
1.	48/3 (Old Sy. No. 48)	01	00	01	Road	Sy. No. 198 (Old Sy. No. 47/P8)	Sy. No. 48/2	Sy. No. 48/4
2.	48/4 (Old Sy. No. 48)	01	00	01	Road	Sy. No. 198 (Old Sy. No. 47/P8)	Sy. No. 48/3	Private Property
3.	198 (Old Sy. No. 47/P8)	02	28	00	Sy. Nos. 48/2, 48/3 & 48/4	Sy. No. 116	Sy. No. 126	Sy. No. 50
4.	Sy. No. 48/2 (Old Sy. No. 48)	01	07.75	01	Road	Sy. No. 198 (Old Sy. No. 47/P8)	Portion of Sy. No. 48/2	Sy. No. 48/3

Sri. KUSUMA R. MUNIRAJU
Sri.KUSUMA KAUSHIK
Advocates, No.101, "EDEN PARK", No.20, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore-560 001. Tel : 080 – 22217971 / 42000249

Bangalore
Date: 19/05/2026

UTTARAKHAND JUDICIAL & LEGAL ACADEMY, BHOWALI, NAINITAL
ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF RESEARCH FELLOW

Applications are invited for three posts of Research Fellow in the fixed remuneration of Rupees 40,000/- (Forty thousand) per month in Uttarakhand Judicial & Legal Academy, Bhowali, District Nainital. It is purely short term contractual post for the period of one year, which may be extended upto two years after scrutinizing the past performance of the Research Fellow.

The Last date for receiving application is 30.06.2026 till 05:00 PM.

For more details, please visit the Academy website https://ujala.uk.gov.in

Director

CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research
(Council of Scientific and Industrial Research)
Barwa Road, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)

Advt. No. : CIMFR-02/2026

CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, Dhanbad, a premier research institute under Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, an autonomous body under Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, GoI invites application from Indian nationals for the following posts of Technician/Gr. II, Level-02 (7th CPC).

Designation	No. of Posts & Reservation	Scale of Pay as per 7th CPC	Upper Age Limit not exceeding (as on the last date of submission of application as mentioned in the advt.)
Technician- 1 Group- II (1)	30 (including PwBD: 02 & ESM: 03) {UR: 10, EWS: 05, OBC: 02, SC: 02, ST: 11, PwBD: 02 (one each HH & VH with low vision) & ESM: 03}	Level-2 (Rs. 19,900-63,200)	28 Years

Last date for submission of application is **19-06-2026 till 05:00 P.M.** For details including eligibility conditions, Reservation status and terms & conditions etc., please refer to Website www.cimfr.res.in. Any addendum/modification/notifications in connection with this advertisement shall be posted on our website only.

Sd/-
Controller of Administration

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

WAR IS PEACE. FREEDOM IS SLAVERY. IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH
— GEORGE ORWELL

ANGELINA JOLIE'S & BRAD PITT'S DAUGHTER ZAHARA DROPS 'PITT' FROM HER NAME AT HER GRADUATION CEREMONY

SEBASTIAN STAN SLAMS TRUMP, SAYS WHAT'S GOING ON IN US IS 'NOT A LAUGHING MATTER': 'WE ARE IN A REALLY BAD PLACE'

Trump: US could attack Iran again but Tehran wants deal

US Prez Earlier Said He Held Off Bombing On Gulf States' Appeal

Dubai/Washington: US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that the US may need to attack Iran again, and he was only an hour away from deciding on a strike before he postponed the attack.

Trump was speaking to reporters at the White House a day after saying he had paused a planned resumption of attacks following a new peace proposal by Tehran. "I was an hour away from making the decision to go today," Trump said on Tuesday. He also said Iran's leaders are begging to make a deal, but that a new US attack would happen in the coming days if one was not reached.

"Well, I mean, I'm saying two or three days, maybe Friday, Saturday, Sunday, something, maybe early next week, a limited period of time, because we can't let them have a new nuclear weapon."

Earlier on Tuesday, Iranian state media said Tehran's latest peace proposal involves ending hostilities on all fronts including Lebanon, the exit of US forces from areas close to Iran, and reparations for destruction caused by the US-Israeli war.

Trump on Monday had said he called off the attack planned for Tuesday after leaders of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates wanted more time to pursue diplomacy. The US delayed the strikes "for a little while, hopefully maybe forever," because "we've had very big discussions with Iran, and we'll see what they amount to," Trump said at the White House on Monday evening. Tehran has repeatedly targeted the three countries with missiles and drones, damaging energy sites and ports.

"In their opinion, as Great Leaders and Allies, a Deal will be made, which will be very acceptable to the United States of America, as well as all Countries in the Middle East," Trump posted on Truth Social. Trump gave no details on what targets US forces would have attacked or what kind of deal he would accept, beyond that it would have to include "no nuclear weapons for Iran." REUTERS

AP/Files

The Barakah nuclear power plant

UAE: Drone on N-plant launched from Iraq

The UAE said on Tuesday that six drones had been launched against it from Iraq in the past 48 hours, including one that caused a fire at a nuclear power plant in the Gulf state on Sunday. The UAE's defence ministry said that it had intercepted all but one of the drones. It said three in total had been targeting the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant. Emirati officials have said the UAE has the full right to respond to such "terrorist attacks". Iraq is home to powerful Iranian-backed militia groups which have claimed attacks against "enemy bases in Iraq and the region" during the war. Iraq said its air defences had not detected any drones being launched from its airspace. REUTERS

Iran army warns of opening new fronts

Tehran: Iran's army warned on Tuesday it would "open new fronts" against the US if it resumes attacks. The warning came with a shaky ceasefire in place since April 8.

In a post on his Truth Social platform, President Trump said that he had held off attacks but he had instructed the US military to be "prepared to go forward with a full, large-scale assault of Iran, on a moment's notice, in the event that an acceptable Deal is not reached". Iran's deputy foreign minister Kazem Gharibabadi wrote on X that Trump's comments meant the US president was "calling a 'threat' a 'chance for peace'!"

On Tuesday, Iran's army spokesman Mohammad Akraminia earlier warned the Islamic republic would "open new fronts against" the US if it resumes attacks. He added that Iran's military had used the ceasefire as an opportunity "to strengthen its combat capabilities", without elaborating.

Reuters

An Iranian military personnel educates women about how to use a gun at a booth in Tehran

Iran: New proposal includes reparations for war damage, US troop withdrawal

Tehran's latest peace proposal to the US involves ending hostilities on all fronts including Lebanon, the exit of US forces from areas close to Iran, and reparations for destruction caused by war, state media reported on Tuesday. In Tehran's first comments on the proposal, Gharibabadi said Tehran also sought the lifting of sanctions, the release of frozen funds and an end to the US marine blockade on the country, according to IRNA news agency. The terms as described in the Iranian reports appeared little changed from Iran's previous offer, which Trump rejected last week as "garbage".

Iran civilians learn assault rifle basics to fend off US

Gathered around a Revolutionary Guard in central Tehran, an audience of Iranians is learning to use an AK-47 assault rifle, in case it falls to them to defend the country from renewed US attacks. For nearly half an hour, the soldier demonstrates different types of ammunition and how to assemble and disassemble the Kalashnikov using illustrated boards set up behind him on Haft-e Tir Square. The authorities have set up military training booths across Tehran in recent days to teach the public the basics of weapons handling, as they seek to prepare Iranian society for the possibility of a return to fighting. AGENCIES

Indian national found dead inside mission in B'desh

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: Bangladesh police on Tuesday recovered the body of an Indian national from the premises of the Indian assistant high commission in Chittagong's Khulshi area. The deceased has been identified as Narender (35) — son of Ram Niwas and a resident of Haryana — who was a security assistant at the mission, police said.

According to official sources in Delhi, there was no indication of any foul play yet.

Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) director Brig Gen Mohammad Taslim Uddin told reporters that Narender was brought to the hospital dead. No injury marks or suspicious signs were found on the body at the time, he said, adding the exact cause of death would be determined after the postmortem report is received.

Police said Narender's colleagues became concerned after receiving no response from his room, and later alerted authorities. The body was sent to CMCH for postmortem, police said, adding inquest found no apparent abnormalities.

Pak's Punjab to restore Lahore streets' pre-partition names

Lahore: Pakistan's Punjab govt has approved a plan to restore the names of several streets and roads in Lahore, aiming to revive the city's pre-partition heritage, an official said on Monday. Many historic streets and roads in Lahore were renamed over the past decades, replacing British-era and Hindu-associated names with those of Islamic, Pakistani or local figures.

"The Punjab Cabinet meeting, chaired by chief minister Maryam Nawaz, a few days ago had approved a plan to restore the original and historical names of various streets and roads in Lahore and its neighbourhood," a govt official said. The decision has been taken to revive the cultural identity and heritage of this historical city, he said.

He further said, this initiative is led by former PM Nawaz Sharif, who is also the head of the Lahore Heritage Areas Revival project. His proposal got a cabinet approval last week.

Reuters

People rally in Lahore calling for reduction in fuel prices on Monday

Historic streets and roads in Lahore that were renamed in the past by successive goves include Queen's Road, Jail Road, Davies Road, Lawrence Road, Empress Road, Krishan Nagar, Santnagar, Dharampura, Brandreth Road, Ram Gali, Tempbell Street, Laxmi Chowk, Jain Mandir Road, Kumharpura, Mohan Lal Bazaar, Sundar Das Road, Bhagwan Pura, Shanti Nagar and Outfall Road.

Sharif has also proposed the restoration of three cricket grounds and a traditional 'akhara' (wrestling arena) at Minto Park (Greater Iqbal Park) — which is being widely perceived as a damage control strategy. His brother, PM Shehbaz Sharif, during his tenure as the chief minister of Punjab, faced heavy criticism for demolishing three historical cricket grounds, areas under cricket clubs and a wrestling arena under an urban development programme.

Several cricketers, like former Pakistan skipper Inzamam-ul-Haq, were trained in these cricket clubs in Minto Park. Before the Partition, Indian cricketer Lala Amarnath also went for training in these clubs. When Amarnath visited Lahore with the Indian cricket team in 1978, he went to Minto Park and spent time with the players of Crescent Cricket Club, for which he used to play till the Partition happened. The demolished wrestling arena in Minto Park once witnessed bouts by veterans such as Goonga Pehalwan, Imam Bakhsh and Gama Pehalwan. Before Partition, Hindus would celebrate the festival of Dussehra in Minto Park. PTI

Nato considering mission to help ships pass Hormuz

Nato is discussing the possibility of helping ships pass through the blocked Strait of Hormuz if the waterway isn't reopened by early July, according to a senior official in the military alliance. The idea has support from several members of the Nato, but doesn't yet have the necessary unanimous support, said a diplomat from a Nato country. Both officials spoke on the condition of anonymity. Heads of state from Nato countries will meet in Ankara on July 7-8.

"The political direction comes first, and then the formal planning happens after that," said Alexus Grynkewich, Nato's supreme allied commander Europe, when asked about the possibility at a Tuesday press conference. "Am I thinking about it? Absolutely."

Such a move would mean a shift in the military alliance's strategy toward the war in Iran. Thus far, allies have insisted they would only be involved in the strait once fighting has stopped and they can form a broad coalition. But economic woes are deepening, with the strait's closure sending energy prices soaring and growth forecasts tumbling. BLOOMBERG

5 dead, including 2 teen suspects, after shooting at a mosque in the US

San Diego: Two teenage shooters opened fire at a San Diego mosque on Monday and killed three men — then killed themselves a few blocks away — in an attack police are investigating as a hate crime. There was no specific threat made against the Islamic Center of San Diego but authorities found evidence that the suspects engaged in "generalised hate rhetoric," San Diego Police chief Scott Wahl said. He declined to give more details, but said the "circumstances that led up to this" would come out in the days ahead.

Before the attack, officers were already looking for one of the teenagers since his mother called police concerned that her son was suicidal and had run away, Wahl said. There were weapons missing from the home and the mother's vehicle was gone, Wahl added. The search took on even more urgency as police learned that he was dressed in camouflage and with an acquaintance — details that were unexpected for someone about to die by suicide, the police chief said.

Reuters

Women wait for their children outside the mosque in San Diego

As officers continued interviewing the mother about places the teens might be, they got reports of a shooting at the mosque. Among those killed was a mosque security guard, who police believe "played a pivotal role" in keeping the attack from being "much worse," Wahl said.

A family friend identified the guard as Amin Abdullah, a well-known face at the mosque who had been working there for more than a decade. The centre is the largest mosque in San Diego County and includes a school. The shooters were found dead in a vehicle stopped in the middle of a road, Wahl said. AP

Putin lands in China to reaffirm Russia ties

Beijing: Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived Tuesday night in China for meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping less than a week after US President Donald Trump wrapped up his own trip to Beijing. Putin's plane landed in Beijing, where it was greeted by an honour guard and youths in light blue shirts.

Putin's two-day visit is likely to be closely watched as Beijing seeks to maintain stable relations with the US while also preserving strong ties with Russia. The Kremlin has said Putin and Xi Jinping plan to discuss economic cooperation between the two countries, but also "key international and regional issues."

Putin said in a video address released before his visit that bilateral ties are at "a truly unprecedented level", China's official Xinhua News Agency reported Tuesday. "Trump visit was about stabilising the world's most important bilateral relationship; Putin's visit is to reassure a long-standing strategic partner," said Wang Zichen, deputy secretary-general for the Beijing-based think tank Center for China & Globalisation. "For China, these two are not mutually exclusive." AP

Iran stages weddings for couples ready for war 'sacrifice'

Tehran: Iranian authorities held mass public weddings in Tehran for couples who signed up to a state-sponsored scheme declaring their readiness to sacrifice their lives in the war against the US and Israel. The ceremonies conducted late on Monday involved hundreds of couples in several major squares in the capital, including more than 100 in the vast Imam Hossein square in Tehran, according to reports in Iranian media.

They were broadcast on state TV in a bid to boost wartime morale, with US President Trump repeatedly threatening new military action against Iran.

Those involved had signed up, according to Iranian media, for the so-called "self-sacrifice" scheme where people pledged to put their lives on the line in the war by, for example, forming human chains outside power stations.

Iranian authorities say millions of people, including top figures such as speaker of parliament Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf and President Masoud Pezeshkian, have put their names forward. Couples arrived in military jeeps with mounted machine guns and were married on a stage in a ceremony presided over by a cleric, images showed.

The stage was festooned with balloons and with a giant image of supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei, who has yet to appear in public since being elevated to the position after the killing of his father Ali Khamenei. "Certainly, the country is at war, but young people also have the right to marry," one young woman, who was not named, said in footage published by the Mehr news agency. AFP

AFP

A bride rides in a military jeep for mass wedding ceremony in Tehran

Congo sees more Ebola cases, WHO concerned

Bunia: The WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus openly worried Tuesday over the "scale and speed" of an outbreak of a rare type of Ebola in eastern Congo, where authorities reported a sharp increase in suspected deaths — to at least 134 — and more than 500 suspected cases.

The virus spread undetected for weeks after the first known death as authorities tested for a more common type of Ebola and came up negative, health experts and aid workers said. The Bundibugyo virus has no approved medicines or vaccines.

Congo was expecting shipments from the US and Britain of ChAdOx1, an experimental vaccine developed by researchers at Oxford and designed to target the more common types of Ebola, Zaire and Sudan, Jean-Jaques Muyembe, a virologist at the National Institute of Bio-Medical Research, told journalists. "We will administer the vaccine and see who develops the disease," he said.

Tedros said he was "deeply concerned about the scale and speed of the epidemic," and the UN health agency convened its emergency committee on Tuesday. He pointed to the emergence of cases in urban areas, the deaths of healthcare workers and significant population movement. Six tons of medical supplies to fight Ebola were scheduled to reach Congo on Tuesday but limited testing capacity was slowing the response to the outbreak, said Dr Anne Ancia, WHO representative in Congo. AP

AFP

Soldiers guard a laboratory in Goma

Mango scion out on bail after arrest over father's death

Barcelona: The eldest son of Spanish clothing empire Mango's founder Isak Andic was released on Tuesday after posting one million euros' bail following his arrest as part of a murder inquiry into his father's 2024 death.

After being detained by police on Tuesday morning and taken to court in handcuffs for questioning, Jonathan Andic left the courthouse in Martorell in northeastern Spain, where he was accompanied by his lawyers, according to an AFP reporter at the scene. He did not answer questions from journalists.

The 45-year-old was ordered to surrender his passport, appear weekly before the court, the court said in a statement, adding that the case was being "investigated as a charge of homicide". Jonathan was alone with his 71-year-old billionaire father when the clothing empire founder plunged to his death in the Montserrat mountains near Barcelona on Dec 14, 2024. AFP

Nepal plans 'Romeo-Juliet' clause in rape law to protect consensual teen couples

Vishant.Agarwala
@timesofindia.com

The debate has also come at a time when Nepal is debating whether to lower the legal marriage age to 18

The Balendra Shah govt in Nepal is planning to change its statutory rape law by introducing a "Romeo-Juliet" clause that would prevent consensual relationships between teenagers close in age from automatically becoming rape cases. The proposed reform, now under review, seeks to create a three-year age-gap exemption for adolescents aged between 16 and 18, while retaining strict punishment for sexual abuse, coercion and exploitation.

Nepal's current law treats any sexual relationship involving a person below 18 as rape, regardless of consent, while the legal marriage age in the country is 20. Critics of the existing law said this had led to cases where teenage boys were jailed after consensual relationships, often following complaints by families opposed to the relationship, including inter-caste relationships or elopements.

The debate has also come at a time when Nepal is debating whether to lower the legal marriage age to 18, a proposal that has left drawn support in some quarters but concern from child-rights activists.

The proposal gained momentum after several controversial cases involving teenage couples reached Nepal's courts. Law secretary Udaya Raj Dhungana said govt is preparing a "Romeo and Juliet law" after seeing a rise in such cases. "The intention is not to weaken rape laws. The intention is to separate exploitation from natural adolescent relationships," he said.

Dhungana said one suggestion before govt was to apply the exemption where the age difference was up to three years, while cases involving a larger age gap would continue under regular criminal law.

Senior advocate Meera Dhungana, who was involved in discussions around the reform, told **TOI** that families often used rape complaints to break relationships they disapproved of. "We found cases where the law was being used to punish young couples rather than protect minors from abuse," she said.

The debate has found support among younger activists and students. Kathmandu-based activist Samikshya Karki told **TOI**, "Two teenagers in a relationship should not automatically become a criminal case. The law must distinguish between abuse and consensual relationships among peers."

DAILY PLANET

AFP

DOGS' DAY OUT: New York hosted the 2026 Pet Gala on Tuesday. The highly anticipated annual canine fashion event showcases dogs in elaborate, custom-made outfits inspired by the year's Met Gala

Channel 4 pulls episodes of TV show after sexual misconduct claims

Broadcaster Channel 4 has pulled all episodes of "Married at First Sight UK" from its platforms after three contestants claimed they were sexually assaulted by on-screen partners on the match-making reality show. The broadcaster said the allegations are "very serious," and the British govt said Tuesday there must be "consequences for criminality or wrong-doing". "Married at First Sight" is an international reality TV franchise inspired by a Danish original, with editions in countries including the US, Australia and South Africa. Strangers are matched by experts and move in together after mock wedding ceremonies. Two women who appeared on the British show say they were raped by their on-screen husbands, and a third claims she was subjected to a non-consensual sexual act. The claims were made during a probe by the BBC current affairs programme "Panorama." The BBC said the claimants have not contacted the police, and the men involved dispute the allegations.

Thailand cuts visa-free stays citing crime

Thailand is drastically cutting the length of visa-free stays for tourists from more than 90 countries in an effort to curb crime involving foreign nationals, officials said on Tuesday. A recent series of high-profile arrests of foreigners has included cases linked to drug offences, sex trafficking and foreigners operating businesses such as hotels and schools without permits. Under Thailand's current tourism scheme, travellers from more than 90 countries are eligible to visit for up to 60 days without a visa. The new visa-free duration would be decided on a country-by-country basis, with most foreign nationals granted stays of up to 30 days, while some could receive only 15 days, minister Surasak Phancharoenworakul said.

Billie Jean King, 82, earns a college degree 65 years after starting at Cal State LA

Los Angeles: Billie Jean King raised her right arm in triumph. Not for another victory on the tennis court. This time, she was celebrating earning a college degree 65 years after she first took classes.

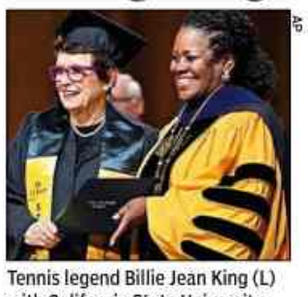
The 82-year-old sports and equality icon received her bachelor's of art in history from Cal State Los Angeles on Monday, walking across the stage in hot pink glasses and royal blue sneakers at the Shrine Auditorium with about 6,000 others in the Class of 2026.

"It's never too late, whatever age you are, whatever your abilities are, go for it if you want it," she said afterward.

King's black gown was accented with a gold graduation stole personalised by a friend. One side included her initials and the letters G.O.A.T., referring to greatest of all time.

A multi-coloured tennis racket was embroidered on the other side. "It means a lot more to me than I thought," she said. "I am so glad I did it. My hope is that one other person will go back to school."

King announced two years ago that she would work on completing her degree at the school where her bronze statue stands outside the physical education building. "Being a student-athlete didn't mean I had a scholarship," she told the crowd. "Financial support wasn't available to women in 1961, even though my friends Arthur Ashe and Stan Smith were both scholarship students on the men's teams at UCLA and USC."



AP

Tennis legend Billie Jean King (L) with California State University president Berenecea Johnson Eanes after receiving her diploma

King committed to working toward equality and inclusion for all. "We can never understand inclusion unless we've been excluded," she said. At one point, a screaming baby in the balcony interrupted King. "Is it that bad?" she asked, as the crowd laughed. She punctuated her speech with a cry of "Si se puede!" The audience erupted in cheers to the phrase meaning "Yes you can!"

She initially enrolled at the campus five miles east of downtown in 1961, the same year she won the first of her record-tying 20 Wimbledon titles, this one in women's doubles.

"Things were different then," she told the students. "Winning a Wimbledon doubles title today is worth close to half a million dollars. In 1961, I think we won a $45 gift voucher to a local store."

She soon left school to pursue tennis ranking at the top in the world, winning 39 major championships, and earning an historic victory over Bobby Riggs in the 1973 "Battle of the Sexes." King helped establish the current women's pro tour while pushing for expanded prize money and opportunities for women.

Despite her many successes on and off the court, King carried a nagging feeling about not earning her degree. She always corrected anyone assembling her biography that stated she had graduated. "I said, Don't ever say graduated, I haven't earned it yet,'" she said. "I was thinking today coming over here for the first time actually they can say I graduated now."

Would King go for a master's degree now? "I just turned on the news and there's Shaq walking across at LSU getting his master's," she said. "I just think it's wonderful to always keep learning." AP

TIMES BUSINESS

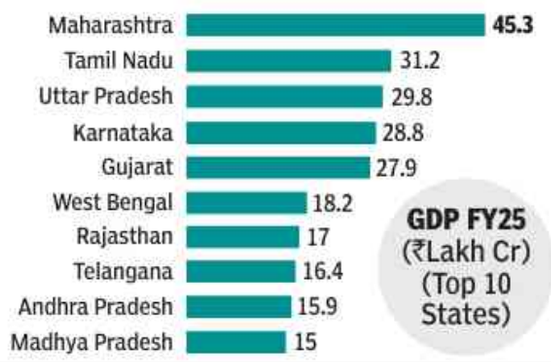
THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat together contributed nearly 48% of India's GDP in FY25, while the bottom 10 states accounted for less than 3%. Goa and Sikkim recorded per capita incomes which were 8 times higher than Bihar

INDIA'S MACRO CONTEXT (FY25)

- **Agri:** Highest share in Bihar's GDP at 25% | Goa lowest at 1.5%
- **Mfg:** Gujarat highest with 39.7% share | Kerala lowest at 8.6%
- **Services:** Goa highest with 74.6% share | Bihar lowest at 47.8%
- **Unemployment:** Lowest in Guj at 2.7% | Andaman & Nicobar has highest at 19.2%

GDP FY25 (₹Lakh Cr) (Top 10 States)



Source: Client Associates

Rising yields impact states' borrowing costs

Mumbai: Six states raised a total of Rs 20,100 crore in the latest state development loan auction conducted by RBI on Tuesday, with weighted average yields ranging between 7.6% and 7.9% across tenures of 6 to 30 years. The results are in line with the rise in yields on central govt bonds where 10-year bond yields have risen to 7.1%.

The auction saw bonds with remaining maturities spanning from 6 years, maturing in 2032, to 30 years, maturing in 2056, reflecting a wide spread of borrowing durations by states.

Maharashtra emerged as the largest borrower, raising Rs 4,000 crore across three tenures, although Rajasthan also matched the same aggregate borrowing amount across multiple tenures. Maharashtra raised Rs 800 crore at a weighted average yield of 7.8% for an eight-year bond maturing in 2034, Rs 1,600 crore at 7.9% for an 18-year bond maturing in 2044, and Rs 1,600 crore at 7.9% for a 28-year bond maturing in 2054. TNN

Groww founders pare stake worth 250cr

Bengaluru: Promoters of wealthtech firm Groww sold around 0.23% stake in the company over the past few days in transactions estimated at Rs 250-260 crore, according to stock exchange disclosures. The Bengaluru-based company, founded by Lalit Keshre, Ishan Bansal, Neeraj Singh and Harsh Jain, went public last year. The latest share sale marks one of the largest liquidity events for the founders since the listing. The stake sale comes shortly after early investors, including Peak XV Partners, Ribbit Capital and Y Combinator, trimmed their holdings following the expiry of the IPO lock-in period. TNN

Unacademy's Sumit Jain steps down

Bengaluru: Unacademy cofounder and test-prep head Sumit Jain stepping away from his operational role at the Bengaluru-based company ahead of its proposed merger with upGrad. The move was announced through LinkedIn posts by Jain and Unacademy CEO Gaurav Munjal on Monday. Munjal said Jain played a key role in building creator platform Graphy and in making the company's offline business profitable. "Sumit joined us as co-founder in 2020 and since then helped us build Graphy and make offline profitable," Munjal wrote. TNN

RBI to align bank disclosure norms with global standards

Uniform Reporting As Per Basel Framework, More Accountability

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI's new disclosure norms will put unlisted banks at par with listed peers, standardise reporting formats and units, and make global comparisons of Indian lenders much easier by mandating uniform, template-driven disclosures.

The new norms prescribe globally aligned reporting architecture that mirrors Basel standards, addressing the third of the three pillars of the globally accepted Basel Accord Framework. RBI has invited comments on the draft "Reserve Bank of India (Capital Adequacy) Amendment Directions, 2026" by June 2, 2026. The new norms will formally take effect from the second quarter of FY 2026-27.

Instead of dense textual explanations embedded in annual reports, banks will now be required to publish clearly defined templates such as those for key metrics, capital composition and risk-weighted assets, enabling analysts and depositors to assess financial strength at a glance.

Hitherto smaller or unlisted institutions faced relatively lighter public disclosure requirements, the proposed rules ensure that all banks expose their capital position and risk profile in a consistent and transparent manner regardless of listing status.

The draft norms also introduce stronger accountability by requiring whole-time directors to formally attest to the accuracy of disclosures and the robustness of internal controls governing them. This elevates disclosures from a compliance exercise to a board-level responsibility.

To improve clarity and eliminate inconsistencies, the RBI has proposed strict standardisation rules, including mandatory reporting of all figures in crores and a prohibition on altering template structures. Even where a particular disclosure item is not applicable, banks must retain the row and indicate its absence rather than removing it, ensuring that the visual layout remains identical across institutions and time periods.

Further, banks will be required to maintain a dedicated regulatory disclosure section on their websites, with archives of such disclosures preserved for at least ten years. This creates a long-term digital trail of financial data, enabling stakeholders to track how a bank's risk profile evolves across economic cycles and preventing the disappearance of historical information.

NEW NORMS TO KICK IN FROM Q2FY27

- RBI's globally-aligned reporting architecture to act as **"financial health dashboards"** for banks
- Key metrics such as capital composition and risk-weighted assets to be **disclosed consistently and transparently irrespective of banks' listing status**
- Whole-time directors to attest to disclosure accuracy and robust internal controls, increasing **legal & reputational stakes for misreporting**
- Template structures to be followed for uniformity, **regulatory disclosure records going back 10 yrs to be available** on bank websites

Insolvency resolution drops to 13-quarter low

36 Cases Resolved By NCLT In Jan-March Against 70 A Yr Ago, Worst After 29 in 2022

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New Delhi: Corporate insolvency resolutions dropped to a 13-quarter low of 36 cases being resolved by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) during Jan-March 2026, compared with 70 a year ago, with just eight plans approved in Feb and seven in March. This was the worst March quarter for the resolution process since Jan-March 2022 when just 29 cases were approved, according to Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India data.

Those tracking the cases said the absence of a full-time NCLT president since the end of Jan was the main reason for slowdown, although there are several vacancies as well. Officials are hopeful that resolution process will now pick up in the NCLT benches, following the appointment of new president Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal in May.

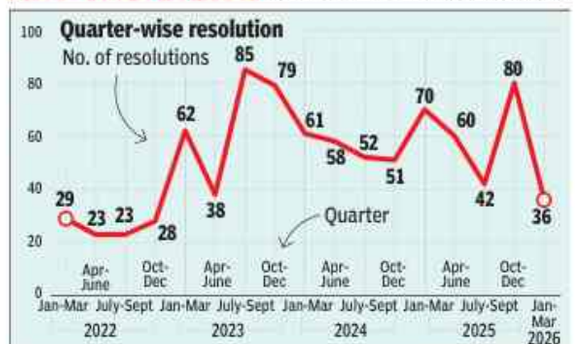
As a result, the average time taken for closure of corporate insolvency cases has shot up to 744 days, compared with 713 a year ago. The current time being taken is nearly three times the extended framework of 270 days provided under the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC), which was enacted in 2016 to help fast-track the process, but is now hit by massive delays.

Last month, the Supreme Court also flagged its concern over delays in approval of resolution plans. Officials said amendments to IBC will also speed up the process.

"The process has been criticised for delays in admission of a corporate debtor (company) into CIRP (corporate insolvency resolution process). The amendments now provide that in applications made by financial institutions, a record of default issued by the IU (information utility), would be counted as sufficient proof of default. This addresses a key bottleneck where admission of cases was often delayed due to prolonged litigation on evidence of default. By recognising IU records as reliable and structured evidence, the process becomes faster and more objective," IBBI chairman Ravi Mittal said in the monthly newsletter.

The ministry of corporate affairs and IBBI have also proposed having more benches of NCLT, a proposal which has also received the backing of the Parliamentary committee dealing with amendments to IBC, but is pending with govt. For creditors, IBC remains the preferred mode to deal with pending dues.

KEY VACANCIES CAUSE SLOWDOWN



Average Closure Time Increasing

Year	Cases initiated	Cases pending	Avg time for closure (Days)
2019-20	1990	1813	375
2020-21	536	1621	459
2021-22	888	1701	528
2022-23	1262	1949	614
2023-24	1003	1917	679
2024-25	723	1926	713
2025-26	665	1885	744

Source: IBBI

TCS says employees will not see a reduction in pay

Shilpa Phadnis & Veena Mani | TNN

Bengaluru: TCS has clarified that there is no reduction in the salaries of employees, and noted that confusion among employees was the result of the gratuity component not being shown in the latest payslip.

The change, it said, was the result of implementation of the new labour codes. The clarification came following a major social media outburst from employees alleging that their latest appraisal letters indicate a reduction in salaries and take-home pay. TCS said even take-home pay is being protected for most employees, and if some do see a slight reduction, that is more than made up for in later payouts like PF and gratuity.

"There has been no reduction in employees' gross pay or net pay," a TCS spokesperson told TOI. Several employees questioned why gratuity was excluded in the latest compensation letters. TCS said employees may see a higher gratuity value reflected in their June payslips. This, it said, follows changes under the Code on Social Security, 2020, which links gratuity calculations to "wages" rather than only basic pay.

Documents reviewed by TOI show that under the revised wage structure, components such as basic pay, city allowance and personal allowance are classified as part of wages under the new labour codes. In contrast, house rent allowance (HRA), conveyance allowance, provident fund (PF) contributions, superannuation / NPS contributions and statutory bonus are classified as exclusions. Performance-linked variable pay, company-paid health insurance premiums, ESIC contributions and other performance-based incentives are treated separately and are not considered part of wages.

TCS said employees would receive gratuity under either the TCS Gratuity Scheme or the Social Security Code framework, depending on whichever provides a greater benefit. The gratuity multiplier will depend on an employee's tenure as of July 1 this year, and some employees may not see any change if the existing TCS gratuity structure remains more beneficial. Addressing concerns around the exclusion of gratuity from CTC, the spokesperson said: "Earlier, gratuity was shown as part of CTC. Under the new wage code, gratuity accruals have increased because calculations are now linked to wages rather than just basic salary. Employees will see higher gratuity accruals reflected in their pay slips."

The company added that gratuity was excluded from CTC as a conservative measure because gratuity payouts remain subject to a statutory cap. Employees comparing compensation should remove gratuity from previous-year CTC calculations and compare on a like-for-like basis, it said.

In its latest appraisal cycle, TCS rolled out average salary increases of around 5% across the company, with increments varying based on performance ratings. Employees in the A+ category received salary hikes ranging from 9% to 12%, while those in the A band saw increases of around 5% to 8%.

DECODING TCS PAY CHANGES

- Employees flagged lower CTC figures and gratuity changes under TCS' revised compensation structure
- TCS said employees will see no reduction in gross pay or take-home salary
- Company revised salary structures to align with new labour-code requirements
- Gratuity calculations are now linked to total wages, not only basic salary
- Employees may see higher gratuity accruals reflected in June payslips
- TCS said staff will receive whichever gratuity framework offers higher benefits
- Gratuity was removed from CTC because payouts remain subject to statutory caps
- Employees were advised to compare old and new CTC figures excluding gratuity
- WFO compliance and deployment metrics continue to influence variable-pay payouts

TCS keeps WFO linked to variable pay

Bengaluru: TCS' internal compensation documents show that employee performance pay continues to link to work-from-office (WFO) compliance and deployment metrics. Employees with a WFO index of 85% or above receive 100% of their performance pay, while payouts progressively decline at lower compliance levels and drop to zero for employees with attendance below 25%. The policy further states that the deployment index (DI) impact is applied sequentially to the previous quarter's average performance pay after accounting for WFO compliance. TCS revised its variable pay framework in 2024 to formally include work-from-office compliance as a key parameter. - **Shilpa Phadnis & Veena Mani**

Advent picks up minority stake in Iscon Balaji Foods

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Private equity (PE) investor Advent has bought a minority stake in Gujarat's Iscon Balaji Foods (IBF) in a $150 million deal, the companies said in a joint statement on Tuesday, without sharing specifics of the transaction.

The investment is part of a broader $215 million fundraise by IBF which has also been backed by local asset management firm 360 One. IBF makes and exports a range of frozen potato snacks such as French fries and hash browns. Besides supplying its products to quick service restaurants and food-service distributors, it also retails its frozen foods under the brand Hungritos to consumers.

$150MN DEAL

Of late, a lot of foreign PE capital has been chasing the wider local foods space as investors look to diversify their portfolios and bet on segments driving India's consumption growth. Households are now spending more on different range of snacks and experimenting with new brands and flavours on the back of higher disposable income and exposure to newer food recipes.

Earlier this year, General Atlantic bought a minority stake in Balaji Wafers while L Catterton, Temasek, IHC and Alpha Wave Global picked up stakes in Haldiram Snacks Food last year, valuing the company at $10 billion. Founded in 2012, IBF is a joint venture entity of Balaji Wafers and Iscon Group, operating in the estimated $60 billion global frozen potato products market.

IBF, Advent and Avendus which acted as financial advisor to IBF did not respond to queries on valuation and amount of shareholding investors acquired in the company.

Textile bodies seek relief to deal with cotton price surge

Vaitheeswaran.B @timesofindia.com

Chennai: The textile industry has raised concerns over a sharp increase in cotton prices in the past two months and tightening domestic supply, along with heightened raw material and logistics costs, insisting they could adversely impact the industry, hard-hit by US tariffs last year.

Neeraj Jain, managing director of Vardhman Textiles, raised concerns about domestic supply during the company's latest earnings call and flagged the risk of a cotton shortage starting Aug. Also, during the analyst call, Arvind Ltd's management said that higher input costs, especially from cotton prices, could exert pressure on margins in the first half of the year, and that it has proactively locked in long-term prices and secured a significant portion of raw materials to manage the inflationary environment. Exporting units of various sizes and industry bodies have demanded that the Union govt provide an exemption from 11% cotton duty at least till Dec amid a sharp rise in prices and a weakening rupee. Manufacturing units say the price hike pushes up cost and makes them less competitive with other key hubs.

"A sustained domestic supply gap and higher prices force Indian textile manufacturers and exporters to battle higher input costs, especially at a time of growing orders. Some units cannot accept orders with certainty," said Dr A Sakthivel, vice chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council.

'REDUCE DUTY'

- Mfg units say, **price hike pushed up costs and ate into their margins** amid recovery from US tariffs last year
- Industry bodies **seek exemption from 11% cotton import duty**
- Apparel **exports down 12% YoY in April 2026**; combined textile & apparel exports down 3.4% compared to last year

Rupee slides to new low of 96.53 vs dollar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The rupee weakened to a record closing low of 96.53 against the dollar on Tuesday, marking its sixth consecutive session of decline, as sustained high crude oil prices and adverse global cues weighed on the currency.

The local unit closed 18 paise lower compared to 96.35 in the previous session, after touching an intraday low of 96.61, amid persistent pressure from external factors and weak market sentiment.

High crude oil prices have triggered expectations of a widening current account deficit, with dealers saying that for the rupee to stabilise there need to be measures to curtail the deficit or a return of foreign investment flows. While there have been talks of tax breaks for foreigners investing in bonds, rising yields in the US render these tax breaks infructuous. Dealers said that the exchange rate appears to be headed towards the 97 level.

Benchmark Brent crude has risen over 50% since the start of the conflict, posing a challenge for India, which imports most of its crude oil requirements.

Cognizant builds AI-led tokenised pricing models

Veena Mani & Shilpa Phadnis | TNN

Bengaluru: Cognizant is building AI-led pricing and operating models around tokenisation as enterprises shift from human-led services to digital labour, chief executive officer Ravi Kumar S said.

Speaking at a conference hosted by JPMorgan Chase, Kumar said tokenisation has become a "huge thesis" for the company as clients increasingly seek help managing the complexity and costs of AI-driven operations.

The Nasdaq-listed IT services company is introducing AI-enabled rate cards that move beyond traditional time-and-materials pricing models by accounting for different levels of machine involvement in enterprise work. Cognizant had also referred to these pricing models during its recent quarterly earnings call.

The company is rolling out tokenised rate cards to select clients, pricing work across a spectrum ranging from fully human-led delivery to hybrid and increasingly autonomous AI-driven execution.

> Enterprises increasingly recognise that while AI systems could reduce the number of work units required, the value and pricing premium for such services could increase because of productivity gains and automation

> We go from a system integrator to an AI builder, from a pyramid of talent to integrated human and digital labour, and from managing project outcomes to managing operational outcomes
> **Ravi Kumar S** | CEO, COGNIZANT

During the March-quarter earnings call, Kumar said the approach is intended to align pricing with business outcomes and shared value creation. He added that the model could potentially unlock savings of $200 million to $300 million.

Kumar outlined an AI maturity framework ranging from A0, where work is entirely human-driven, to A3, where processes are fully autonomous. He said enterprises increasingly recognise that while AI systems could reduce the number of work units required, the value and pricing premium for such services could increase because of productivity gains and automation.

"Clients are saying as you go from A0 to A3, the premium on the rates will go up, but the number of units will go down because there are machines attached to it," Kumar said.

He added that clients are increasingly asking technology providers to manage not just human effort but also machine-driven workloads and AI consumption costs.

According to Kumar, this shift is creating demand for scalable tokenisation frameworks that can manage AI inference costs, digital labour usage and operational efficiency across clients. Cognizant has started developing internal systems to track projects, people and AI workloads to create standardised and repeatable delivery models.

Kumar said the rise of digital labour is fundamentally reshaping the role of IT services companies and forcing the industry to rethink traditional systems integration models.

"We go from a system integrator to an AI builder, from a pyramid of talent to integrated human and digital labour, and from managing project outcomes to managing operational outcomes," he said.

Cognizant is also reorganising around what it calls "frontier engineers" and "frontier operators"—teams designed to build AI-led systems and manage enterprise outcomes through a mix of human and digital labour.

PepsiCo bets bigger on India with ₹5,700cr expansion plan

Rupali.Mukherjee @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: PepsiCo will ramp up investments in India with a Rs 5,700-crore expansion by 2030 as the snacks and beverages maker bets bigger on one of its fastest-growing markets after a strong performance last year. The company reported a second consecutive year of double-digit growth, with a revenue of Rs 9,798 crore, up 8% year-on-year, while profit rose 4.5% to Rs 905 crore, PepsiCo India and South Asia CEO **Jagrut Kotecha** said.

The performance was driven by the foods business, which posted a strong 11% increase across core brands, such as Lay's and Kurkure, prompting the company to direct a significant part of its planned capex towards expanding snacks manufacturing capacity.

Investments in innovative products are beginning to make a meaningful contribution, with PepsiCo stepping up R&D spends by about 15% year-on-year to drive "India-for-India" innovation, he said. The beverages business, however, faced headwinds from weak weather conditions and intensified competition, which weighed on demand last year. The investment push comes even as the FMCG industry faces geopolitical uncertainties, volatile consumer demand and a growing shift towards healthier options.

Describing India as one of PepsiCo's top 13 markets globally with a long-term potential, Kotecha said the company will continue to invest in innovation, R&D and future-ready product portfolios tailored for India.

He said the volatility and uncertainty remain high, but current demand signals in India continue to be encouraging, supported by low per-capita consumption and the ongoing shift from unbranded to branded products. "We will look month after month, keep our ears to the ground, to the consumer and to market sentiments, and make those choices from time to time."

The company's broad affordability range will help address downtrading pressures, with snacks priced between Rs 5 and Rs 100 and beverage packs starting at Rs 10 in select markets.

TECH **I'D LIKE** TO SEE

FULLY TECH-ENABLED EXAM CENTRES

The examination process in India is rife with malpractices. It impacts the dreams of millions of students and their families. I dream of a future where examination centres are fully tech-enabled controlled environments with advanced solutions such as multi-layered biometric verification that involves facial recognition, palm vein pattern recognition and iris scan. AI-enabled CCTV surveillance that protects the sanctity of the process by detecting and alerting incidents of cheating and inefficient vigilance. Encrypted and individualised question papers that are tamper and leak proof. Integrated command control rooms connected to individual centres with VoIP-enabled communication, and which monitor exam halls in real-time. In these exam centres built in public-private partnership, technology is more than a watchdog, it is a supportive partner. It restores trust in the examination ecosystem, ensures credibility for govt, and equity and fairness for candidates. It tells candidates unequivocally, if you succeed, it is via preparation and performance, not via short-cuts!

Ashish Mittal | FOUNDER & CEO, INNOVATIVIEW

iToons Ajit Ninan & Sunil Agarwal

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Live on YouTube. Scan the QR or go to the URL to set a reminder

Aparna Pratap | DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER – INFOTAINMENT, MERCEDES-BENZ RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INDIA (MBRDI)

FRIDAY May 22, 11:30 AM

Event page link: https://bit.ly/AIcareeredge8

GCCs IN INDIA: Exports rise 2.4x, employment 2x over six years

They've been setting the pace for industry, but much now depends on how they handle AI

Sujit.John@timesofindia.com

We have said for some time that GCCs (global capability centres) are India's best story. But to tell that story well, it's important to have good data.

Unfortunately, not everyone in the industry agrees on how to define a GCC, or how to estimate the size. The biggest bone of contention is whether to include the IT services subsidiaries of companies like Accenture, Capgemini and Cognizant in the category. Nasscom and some others like to keep them out, even though Accenture and Cognizant in India have sometimes described themselves as GCCs. Based on its definition, Nasscom recently came out with figures for GCCs which we reported.

Sandeep Panat's consultancy Wizmatic has since two years been coming out with a different set of figures that include the foreign IT services companies (on the grounds that there is no difference in how they function and are structured compared to others). And these figures are based on an extensive collation of data of over 2,100 companies from Registrar of Companies (RoC), and of over 10,000 companies from EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organisation). The former provides exports and revenue data, while the latter provides month-wise employee numbers.

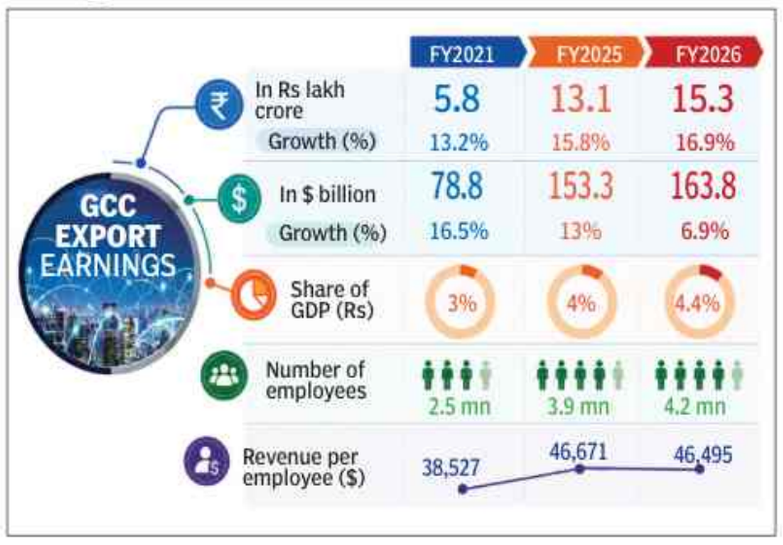
It's probably the best view into how well MNCs providing IT, ITeS and ER&D services from India are doing, and what their contribution to the country is. And the numbers are remarkable. Their growth far outstrips the growth of Indian companies in this segment, and they are probably today as big or bigger than the domestic industry.

Wizmatic estimates that in 2024-25, their exports grew 13% to $153 billion, and based on nine-month figures, it estimates a further growth of 6.9% to $164 billion in 2025-26. But given the sharp depreciation of the rupee in the past year, the rupee growth in the past year will be as much as 17%.

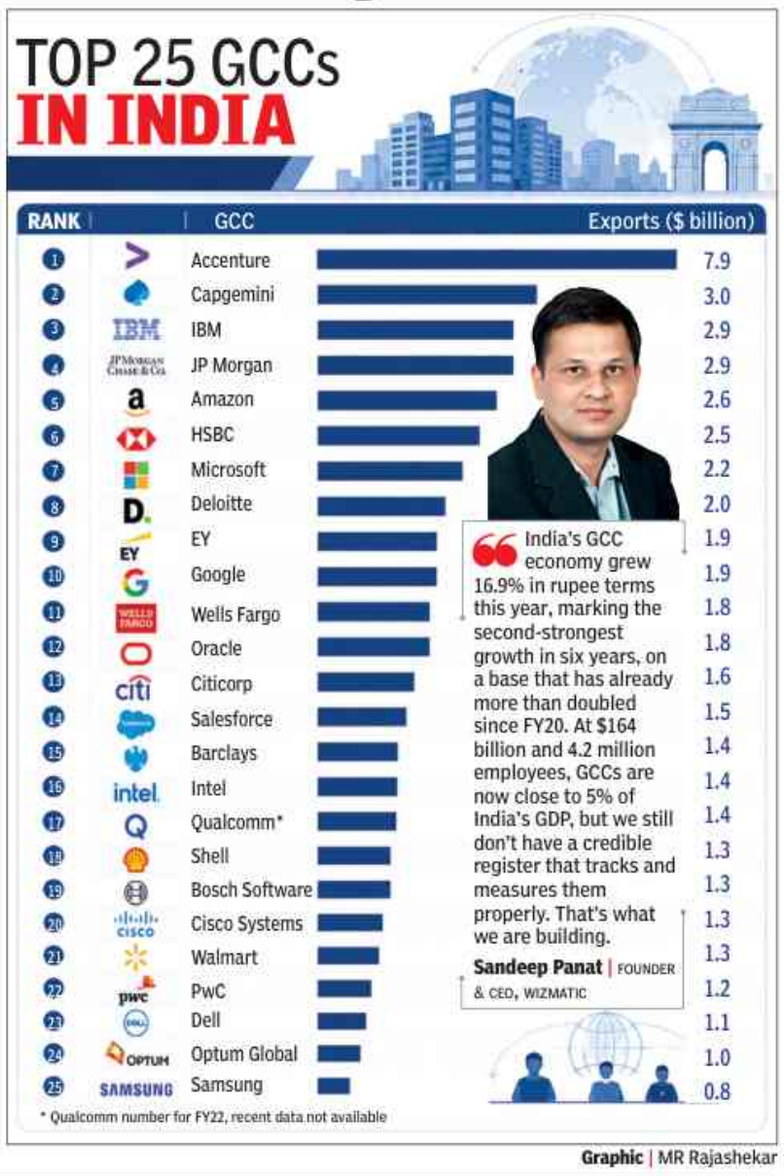
The dollar growth rates in the past few years have been stunning – 17% in FY21, 25% in FY22, 19% in FY23, and 16% in FY24.

Employment growth has been equally so – rising from 2.3 million in FY20, to 4.2 million now. Panat says there are about 8 million employees in the 10,590 IT & tech companies he tracks. That means the foreign companies already account for half of the total employee count.

Revenue per employee has risen 24% over the same period, showing that GCCs are moving up the value chain.


GCC EXPORT EARNINGS
FY2021 FY2025 FY2026
In Rs lakh crore 5.8 13.1 15.3
Growth (%) 13.2% 15.8% 16.9%
In $ billion 78.8 153.3 163.8
Growth (%) 16.5% 13% 6.9%
Share of GDP (Rs) 3% 4% 4.4%
Number of employees 2.5 mn 3.9 mn 4.2 mn
Revenue per employee ($) 38,527 46,671 46,495

GCC EXPORT MIX & GROWTH (FY25)
INDUSTRY VERTICAL | SHARE IN TOTAL GCC EXPORTS (%) | GROWTH IN FY25 (%)
IT/ITeS 22.5 13.3
Software/Technology 22.2 22.1
BFSI 20.2 17.7
Consulting & Professional Services 8.2 14.9
Industrial/ER&D 6.4 4.3
Electronics & Telecom 8.9 9.1
Healthcare 4.3 16.0
Retail/Food 2.4 24.4
Others 4.9 19.9
LARGEST SHARE: IT/iTeS with 22.5%
FASTEST GROWTH Retail/Food with 24.4%
Source: Wizmatic



India's GCC economy grew 16.9% in rupee terms this year, marking the second-strongest growth in six years, on a base that has already more than doubled since FY20. At $164 billion and 4.2 million employees, GCCs are now close to 5% of India's GDP, but we still don't have a credible register that tracks and measures them properly. That's what we are building.

Sandeep Panat | FOUNDER & CEO, WIZMATIC

Graphic | MR Rajashekar

AI Disruption

How does this trend line look going forward? Everyone we speak to feels AI will be a big disrupter. Fewer people will be needed as AI automates many processes. Shalini Pillay, India leader for GCCs in KPMG in India, says mature centres with 20,000-40,000 people may have to rethink their workforce models. Viswanathan K S, former VP at Nasscom and a GCC guru, says the GCC model is currently based on people, but GCCs will have to reimagine workflows and work processes to continue to be relevant to their enterprises.

But most remain optimistic about employment. Many of the world's 2,000 biggest companies are yet to establish a GCC in India, and then there are thousands of mid-sized companies. Pillay suggests a quasi-industry status for GCCs. Viswanathan urges greater ease of doing business, and an international campaign to tell the world about what India's techies and domain experts can deliver.

"There is increasing awareness of the GCC model globally. The mid-market segment is now hotting up. Outsourcing is not in their DNA, they would like to accelerate their digital journey by establishing their own capability centres in India. We are seeing Mittelstand (German SMEs) getting interested. We've seen how when OEMs like Mercedes-Benz, Renault-Nissan, Honda and Suzuki establish GCCs, their tier-1 partners like Bosch, Continental, ZF, Valeo and Denso come in with GCCs. We'll see more of such ecosystem development over time.

Viswanathan K S | DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION ADVISOR, FORMER VP, NASSCOM

"What the GCC model offers in India is a good solution for many global organisations, especially those struggling to grow, or have profitability concerns. Global enterprises are moving to modernise their tech stack, build clean and well-managed data to create AI solutions. build platforms that will straddle across the value chain. India can do all of that. Many more players will come in. But going forward, with AI, the model may be different. They will not need armies of people.

Shalini Pillay | INDIA LEADER – GLOBAL CAPABILITY CENTRES, KPMG IN INDIA

"GCC growth is all too visible. Look at the amount of Grade A office space they are absorbing. Look at the number of IT services companies that are establishing GCC practices. Financial services is already huge in the GCC space, but look at the number of large financial institutions that are continuing to establish GCCs in India – just over the past few months, we've seen those like The Standard, Charles Schwab, Zurich Insurance, and LPL Financial coming in.

Chetan Garga | GCC ADVISOR, FORMER MD, ALLSTATE INDIA

The AI boom is forcing firms to confront their data chaos

Akhil George & Sujit John | TNN

Most companies believe the biggest challenge in artificial intelligence is building smarter models. Now, many of the executives actually deploying AI across global enterprises are discovering something less glamorous but far more consequential: the real battle lies in cleaning up decades of messy, fragmented and inconsistent corporate data.

Inside large organisations, information is often scattered across ageing ERP systems, customised databases, spreadsheets, emails and disconnected software environments accumulated over decades. One division may label a product one way, another may describe the same item differently, while yet another stores it in an entirely separate system. AI systems, executives say, inherit every one of those problems.

"We are not struggling with the amount of data," said Bejoy John, senior director, enterprise data management at Wesco. "We are sitting on volumes and volumes of it. But the data lacks quality, ownership, observability and accountability. That's why many AI systems become brittle and people stop trusting them."

As companies rush to adopt generative AI and autonomous AI agents, executives increasingly argue that data quality — rather than algorithms themselves — is becoming the defining factor separating successful AI deployments from expensive failures.

"Everyone has data," said Kamlesh Solanki, director of data engineering at HP. "Supply chain, finance, customer data — every organisation has it. But the real differentiator is not who has the most data. It is who has the most trusted, governed and contextual data."

"The organisations that will win in the AI era are not the ones with the most sophisticated models. They are the ones with the most disciplined data foundations. The real differentiator is trusted, governed and contextual data, because AI models are only as good as the quality of the data underneath them.

— Kamlesh Solanki | DIRECTOR OF DATA ENGINEERING, HP

"Our data foundation becomes a very key enabler and accelerator to the whole agenda of digital transformation. If the data is not available within the window where it can make an impact, it may no longer be relevant. That is why process discipline, governance and contextual understanding of data become critical.

— Naveen Kamat | CHIEF DIGITAL & AI OFFICER, LARSEN & TOUBRO LIMITED

"AI is becoming more autonomous in its behaviour. If the underlying data is wrong, it is no longer just garbage in, garbage out — it becomes a business risk. More and more, governance, lineage, transparency and contextualised data become mission critical if organisations want AI agents to operate reliably and at scale.

— Padmashree Shagrithaya | EXECUTIVE VP AND HEAD OF INSIGHTS & DATA – INDIA, CAPGEMINI INDIA

"AI does not fail because of models. AI fails because of broken trust in data. We are not struggling with the amount of data — we are sitting on volumes of it. But without quality, ownership, observability and accountability, AI simply automates bad decisions faster.

— Bejoy John | SENIOR DIRECTOR, ENTERPRISE DATA MANAGEMENT, WESCO

Solanki believes many companies still misunderstand the famous phrase "data is the new oil".

"Oil is just a commodity," he said. "Data is context. And context is what separates organisations experimenting with AI from organisations actually winning with AI."

That distinction matters because many companies remain trapped in endless AI pilots that never scale into meaningful business systems. According to executives, the problem is rarely the sophistication of the AI model itself. More often, it is the inability to trust the data flowing into those systems.

At HP, Solanki said AI-powered predictive support systems now monitor millions of PCs and printers globally, detecting signs of hardware failures before customers even notice a problem.

"We have an AI that knows what is going to break before it breaks," he said. The system analyses telemetry data continuously, monitoring battery degradation, storage health and thermal performance. If problems are detected, automated tickets are generated and replacement parts can be dispatched proactively.

"But if the telemetry data is noisy or inconsistent, the AI starts recommending the wrong parts and you are back to square one," Solanki said. "Then you have wasted logistics, multiple repair visits and frustrated customers."

The challenge becomes even more complicated in sprawling industrial organisations.

Naveen Kamat, chief digital & AI officer at Larsen & Toubro, said the company deals with enormous volumes of multimodal data — from ERP systems and procurement platforms to drone feeds, digital twins and complex engineering drawings.

For the company, AI is increasingly being embedded into construction sites, factories and project execution systems.

"We are deploying drones, robotics and physical AI systems at sites," Kamat said. "If a worker is in a hazardous environment or not wearing the right safety harness, we need to detect that in near real time and notify safety managers immediately."

That requires reliable, real-time data pipelines. "If the data is not available within the window where it can make an impact, it may no longer be relevant," he said.

Padmashree Shagrithaya, executive VP and head of insights & data for India at Capgemini, said the rise of autonomous AI agents is making data governance vastly more important than it was during earlier analytics eras.

"What's happening today is AI is becoming more autonomous in its behaviour," she said. "If the underlying data is wrong, it's no longer just garbage in, garbage out. It becomes a business risk."

She pointed to the example of AI-powered HR policy assistants. In many companies, policies evolve over decades, creating multiple versions and overlapping documentation. Humans instinctively understand timelines and context. AI systems do not.

"If the data is not versioned properly, the AI agent may pull the wrong policy or wrong context," she said.

The issue becomes more serious when AI systems begin taking actions independently rather than merely making recommendations. Autonomous systems increasingly handle pricing decisions, inventory forecasting, maintenance planning and operational workflows in real time.

That is forcing organisations to rethink data governance as a continuous, real-time discipline rather than a periodic compliance exercise.

John described data lineage — the ability to trace how data moved through systems — as following "breadcrumbs".

"You should be able to explain exactly how a number travelled from a source system all the way into a financial report or AI model," he said.

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CAREER LADDER FOR WOMEN

Be open to possibilities, it can bring wonders

Usha Gogineni

I began my journey with an undergraduate degree in electronics from NIT Warangal, followed by a Master's in electrical engineering from Auburn University, US. My first role was with IBM Microelectronics in Vermont, where I was the newest member of a highly experienced engineering team. Instead of feeling overwhelmed, I benefited immensely from senior colleagues who mentored me not only in technical disciplines but also in teamwork, collaboration, and maintaining curiosity.

After four years, I moved to IBM New York to work on CMOS technology development as part of a global alliance involving organisations in Singapore, Germany, and Korea. This was my first exposure to truly cross-cultural collaboration and taught me how to work effectively with diverse teams spread across time zones and working styles.

As my career progressed, I embraced increasingly complex challenges. After several years in industry, I made a pivotal decision to pursue a PhD at MIT. The decision was inspired by three senior women leaders I reported to, each of whom held an MIT doctorate. Their presence showed me what women could achieve at the highest levels of semiconductor innovation and inspired me to take the same leap.

After completing my PhD, I returned to India and took up my first leadership position at Maxim Integrated, where I built and led a new team focused on device characterisation and compact modeling. Over nine years, I grew into a director role.

Later, I moved to ams Osram to lead a design enablement organisation supporting digital and analog designers globally. That role expanded my experience with European leadership culture and operational styles.

Last year, I joined Micron Technology and I lead initiatives that enable next-generation memory solutions and shape the company's technology roadmap.

One of the most defining turning points in my career occurred when I returned to India after my PhD. Up to that point, I had consistently turned down people management roles, convinced that the individual contributor track best aligned with my strengths.

However, in India, we were establishing new technical functions from the ground up. As the subject matter expert, I had no choice but to guide, train, and shape the new team. Leadership therefore came to me by necessity rather than design and it changed the direction of my career.

My leadership journey taught me several lessons:

- **Leadership is about leverage and empowerment.** I could still contribute technically, but through others my impact became much larger.
- **Communication and clarity matter just as much as technical excellence** – especially when aligning global teams with different viewpoints and priorities.
- **Adaptability and lifelong learning matter.** Whether transitioning from IBM to MIT, from the US to India, or transitioning to leading bigger teams, every phase required new skills, perspectives, and openness.
- **Humility and openness to feedback are critical.** I learned that leadership is not about having all the answers. Listening to team members, acknowledging gaps, and acting on feedback have been essential to building trust and driving results.
- **Mentors and sponsors change trajectories.** At multiple points, others saw leadership potential in me before I recognised it in myself, and their support helped me stretch beyond my comfort zone.

My career has not followed a perfectly linear plan. Instead, it has been shaped by opportunities, challenges, mentors, risks, and sometimes unexpected turns. Every phase has made me a more thoughtful, confident, and impact-focused leader. Looking back, I am grateful that some of the most defining moments of my journey came not from meticulous planning, but from being open to possibilities I had not initially intended to pursue.

Usha Gogineni is director of technology development at Micron Technology, India

CTRL+F(IND)

Telemetry data

Telemetry data is information collected automatically from devices, software or machines as they operate. It is used to monitor performance, diagnose problems and understand how systems behave in real time. In technology, telemetry can include details such as temperature, battery levels, network activity, location data or how users interact with an application. The data is sent back to a central system for analysis, often continuously. Companies use telemetry to improve reliability, security and efficiency, while engineers use it to detect faults before they become serious. In industries such as healthcare, aviation and automotive manufacturing, telemetry plays an important role in safety and maintenance.

"I DIDN'T WANT IT TO FEEL LIKE WE HAD CLIMBED MOUNT EVEREST (WINNING IPL LAST YEAR). WE WANTED TO JUST KEEP CLIMBING, KEEP HUNTING. WE'VE TALKED WITH THAT LANGUAGE A LITTLE BIT INTERNALLY, JUST TRYING TO STAY IN THAT HUNTER MINDSET."
— Mo Bobat | RCB director of cricket

Vaibhav storm blows LSG away

Opening Batter's Sensational 93 Keeps Royals' Playoff Dreams Alive

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Jaipur: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi lit up Jaipur with another breathtaking exhibition of fearless batting as Rajasthan Royals chased down a 221-run target against Lucknow Super Giants, staying alive in the playoff race with a high-voltage seven-wicket win at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium here on Tuesday.

The teenage sensation fell seven runs short of a hundred but his whirlwind 93 off just 38 balls left the contest virtually decided by the time he fell at the end of the 14th over. Sooryavanshi smashed seven fours and 10 sixes, dismantling both pace and spin with remarkable ease in one of the most explosive innings of the season.

Chasing 221 after Mitchell Marsh's 96 had powered LSG to a formidable total, RR came out with clear intent. Yashasvi Jaiswal set the tone early, hammering a rapid 43 off 23 balls as the hosts raced to 71 without loss in the Powerplay. Once Sooryavanshi settled in, however, the chase turned into a one-sided assault.

The left-hander reached his fifty in just 23 balls and repeatedly cleared the ropes, putting LSG's bowlers under relentless pressure. His 105-run stand with Dhruv Jurel ensured RR never lost momentum even after Jaiswal's dismissal.

Jurel then calmly finished the job with an unbeaten 53 off 38 balls, mixing composure with timely aggression. His knock, studded with three fours and three sixes, provided the perfect balance after Sooryavanshi's fireworks had broken the back of the chase. Donovan Ferreira remained unbeaten on 9 as RR reached 225/3 in 19.1 overs, completing the win with five balls to spare.

579 Runs scored at 44.53 in 13 innings by Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, his highest in an IPL season and the highest by a batter in this IPL season.

10 Sooryavanshi has hit ten sixes or more in an IPL innings three times. Only Chris Gayle has achieved the feat more times (4).

Earlier, Mitchell Marsh once again fell short of scoring an IPL hundred. Four days after a blistering 90 against Chennai Super Kings, Marsh flirted with three figures one more time, this time crafting a commanding 96 off 57 balls, with 11 fours and five sixes, to power LSG to 220/5.

If the milestone eluded him, the impact did not. On a night when RR's playoff hopes hung in the balance, Marsh's innings ensured they were left chasing a daunting target.

Marsh began watchfully but grew in authority, unleashing a range of strokes. His boundaries came with increasing frequency, aided in part by some indifferent bowling and a sloppy effort in the field from the hosts.

He found an able ally in fellow Australian Jos Inglis. Their 109-run opening stand set the tone, with LSG racing to 83 without loss in the Powerplay. Inglis, the early aggressor, smashed 60 off 29 balls, with seven fours and three sixes, capitalising on an early reprieve when Sushant Mishra failed to judge a skier at square leg in the first over.

Arvind Sharma

53 Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is the first Indian to hit 50 sixes or more in an IPL season. His tally is bettered only by Chris Gayle's 59 sixes in 14 innings for RCB in 2012.

220-5 LSG have recorded their first total of 200+ vs RR in the IPL, eclipsing the 196/5 in Lucknow on April 27, 2024.

563 Runs amassed by Mitchell Marsh at an average of 43.30, including a hundred and three fifties, in 13 innings. Having scored 627 runs at 48.23 in 13 innings in 2025, he has become the first LSG batter to aggregate 500+ runs in successive seasons in the IPL.

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

SCOREBOARD

LSG: M Marsh run out 96, J Inglis b Punja 60, N Pooran c Ferreira b Punja 16, R Pant 35, Abdul Samad not out 0, A Badoni b Archer 0; **Extras: (lb3, w9, nb1) 13; Total: (5 wkts) 220; FoW:** 1-109, 2-151, 3-215, 4-220, 5-220; **Bowling:** Archer 4-0-39-1, Mishra 4-0-46-0, Sandeep 3-0-43-0, Brijesh 4-0-44-0, Punja 4-0-35-2, Shanaka 1-0-10-0.

RR: Y Jaiswal c Pant b Akash 43, V Sooryavanshi c Samad b Mohsin 93, D Jurel not out 53, L Pretorius run out Badoni 7, D Ferreira not out 10 ; **Extras: (lb3, w10) 13; Total: (3 wkts, 19.1 ovrs) 225; FoW:** 1-75, 2-180, 3-196; Bowling: Akash 3-0-54-1, Mohsin 4-0-31-1, Mayank 4-0-50-0, Prince 4-0-43-0, Rathi 4-0-38-0, Shahbaz 0.1-0-6-0.

Result: RR won by 7 wickets

HOW THEY STAND

TEAM	M	W	L	NR	NRR	P
RCB	13	9	4	0	1.065	18
GT	13	8	5	0	0.400	16
SRH	13	8	5	0	0.350	16
RR	13	7	6	0	0.083	14
PBKS	13	6	6	1	0.227	13
CSK	13	6	7	0	-0.016	12
DC	13	6	7	0	-0.871	12
KKR	12	5	6	1	-0.038	11
MI	12	4	8	0	-0.504	8
LSG	13	4	9	0	-0.702	8

Knight Riders wary of unpredictable MI

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WEATHER 30°C

Kolkata: One cannot but help remember the adage 'cricket is a great leveller' on seeing Kolkata Knight Riders and Mumbai Indians meeting in what seems to be an inconsequential match at the business end of a tournament they have dominated over the years. While five-time winners MI are out of the race for the playoffs, three-time IPL champions KKR are all but out of the equation.

The hosts remain one among the five teams — Punjab Kings, Rajasthan Royals, Chennai Super Kings and Delhi Capitals being the other four — fighting for the sole available playoffs berth as all sorts of permutation and combinations come into play.

However, a defeat on Wednesday is likely to officially end KKR's playoff hopes for the second successive season. At the same time winning the last two games, which will take them to 15 points, might not be good enough too.

KKR should take heart from the way they have pulled their campaign back, recording five wins in their last six matches after a disastrous start to the season.

But a side with nothing to lose often proves dangerous and MI have played the party poopers for Punjab Kings in their last match. As a matter of fact it was MI who had hit KKR hard in their first match in this IPL, recording a six-wicket victory.

The main architects of that victory — Ryan Rickelton and Rohit Sharma — will once again hold the key. Skipper Hardik Pandya, who is expected to return after missing three games with an injury, will boost MI's batting as well as bowling departments. MI might have faltered this time, but they will always stand ahead of their rivals on experience having a number of international players on the roster.

KKR, on the other hand, seem to have finally got their house in order. While New Zealand opener Finn Allen has got going, Rinku Singh has shouldered the responsibility of a finisher.

Squad vs Afghans: Pant loses Test vice-captaincy, ODI spot

Seniors Bumrah And Jadeja Rested; Prince, Brar, Dubey Earn Maiden India Call-Ups

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Mumbai: Out-of-form wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant was on Tuesday stripped of the Test vice-captaincy for India's one-off Test against Afghanistan, with opener KL Rahul elevated to the role in his place. Pant was also dropped from India's ODI squad for the three-match series against Afghanistan in June.

As expected, pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has been rested from both the Test and ODI assignments as part of workload management by the Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee, which picked the squads in Guwahati on Tuesday. Senior allrounder Ravindra Jadeja too has been rested from both squads after picking up a knee niggle towards the back-end of IPL-2026.

Jadeja had missed Rajasthan Royals' defeat to Delhi Capitals on Sunday night, but chief selector Ajit Agarkar clarified that the veteran had been "rested" and not dropped. "I think Jadeja has just been rested for this Test. He remains a very integral part of the Test team," Agarkar said.

TOI

BIGGER ROLE: KL Rahul has been named Gill's deputy in Tests

Agarkar also confirmed that Bumrah was being carefully managed ahead of India's upcoming tour of England later this year. "Bumrah is obviously getting his workload up. Hopefully, he'll be back when we tour England," he said.

Meanwhile, Rohit Sharma and Hardik Pandya have been included in the ODI squad subject to fitness clearance. Rohit has battled a hamstring issue throughout IPL-2026, while Pandya has missed Mumbai Indians' last three matches due to back spasms.

Punjab pacer Gurnoor Brar and Rajasthan left-arm spinner Manav Suthar earned maiden Test call-ups, while Vidarbha spinner Harsh Dubey was selected in both the Test and ODI squads after an outstanding domestic season. Lucknow Super Giants pacer Prince Yadav also received his maiden India call-up in the ODI squad following a breakthrough IPL campaign. Interestingly, both Brar and Suthar are teammates of captain Shubman Gill at Gujarat Titans.

The selectors, however, ignored Jammu & Kashmir seamer Auqib Nabi despite his sensational Ranji Trophy season in which he finished as the tournament's leading wicket-taker with 60 wickets in 10 matches.

Squad for one-off Test: Shubman Gill (c), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul (vc), Sai Sudharsan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Devdutt Padikkal, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Prasidh Krishna, Gurnoor Brar, Manav Suthar, Harsh Dubey, Dhruv Jurel (wk).

Squad for ODI series: Shubman Gill (c), Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer (vc), KL Rahul, Ishan Kishan (wk), Hardik Pandya, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Prince Yadav, Gurnoor Brar, Harsh Dubey.

'Want Rishabh to be the best Test player he's always been'

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Mumbai: This is perhaps the toughest phase of Rishabh Pant's international career. On Tuesday, his recent setbacks acquired an official colour. From being removed from the Test vice-captaincy to giving way to the in-form Ishan Kishan in ODIs, little seems to be going right for the 28-year-old Pant.

Once viewed as a future India captain and the architect of several famous Test victories overseas, the left-hander has endured another underwhelming IPL season for Lucknow Super Giants, scoring just 251 runs in 12 matches at 27.88, with only one fifty.

Under his captaincy, LSG have also slumped to the bottom of the IPL table.

Meanwhile, Pant's competitors — Sanju Samson and Kishan — have surged ahead after starring in India's triumphant 2026 T20 World Cup campaign and carrying that form into the IPL for their franchises.

Defending the decision to remove Pant as vice-captain, chief selector Ajit Agarkar insisted the move was aimed at helping Pant focus fully on his batting. "Rishabh is an incredible Test player. We want him to become the best Test player that he has always been," Agarkar said during a virtual press conference on Tuesday. "I don't think there is any concern with his place in the Test team. He remains one of our main batters. He had a really good tour of England before he got injured.

"At the moment, in One-Day cricket, we have gone with two different options. But in Test cricket, he remains one of our key players," he added. The selectors clearly see Rahul as the safer deputy to Shubman Gill, particularly given his leadership experience and strong overseas record. "KL has captained India in Tests before. We felt he was the best option at this point from a leadership and experience perspective," Agarkar said.

Getty Images

FRESH SETBACK: Rishabh Pant will have to find ways to rediscover the touch of old

Nabi ignored, Brar gets surprise call-up

The selection meeting also produced a few eyebrow-raising decisions in the pace department. Despite topping the wicket charts in the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy season with 60 wickets in 10 matches at an astonishing average of 12.56, Jammu & Kashmir seamer Auqib Nabi was overlooked. Instead, the selectors backed Punjab and Gujarat Titans pacer Gurnoor Brar for both the Test and ODI squads, while Lucknow Super Giants pacer Prince Yadav earned a maiden ODI call-up.

The decision effectively shuts the door, at least temporarily, on Mohammed Shami and Bhuvneshwar Kumar. Agarkar admitted Nabi's performances were discussed. "Nabi is someone who has done really well over the last couple of seasons. There was certainly a discussion around him," Agarkar said. "But in India, you don't necessarily pick too many seamers in a Test squad. He was close, but we went with the options we have picked."

Is Gaikwad pulling Super Kings down?

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Chennai: CSK are well and truly staring at the unthinkable — three back-to-back seasons of non-qualification to the IPL playoffs. The defeat to Sunrisers Hyderabad at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Monday has left the five-time champions on the cusp of elimination, whereby a win against Gujarat Titans on Thursday may not be enough.

While CSK have been extremely unlucky with injuries this season, one of the most important reasons behind their struggle has been the poor batting form and below-par captaincy of Ruturaj Gaikwad. He has looked so off-the-boil that many feel Sanju Samson, a proven captain, is far better suited in a leadership role in CSK than Gaikwad at the moment. Gaikwad, who led the team for five games last year before being injured, took over complete control this time around, including the choice of players from the auction. But everything has gone wrong for the right-hander, who chose to open the batting with Sanju.

Ruturaj, whose career IPL strike-rate is 135.33, has gone at 120.68 this year, which has been one of the reasons behind CSK consistently losing the batting Powerplays despite occasional whirlwind starts by Samson. Coach Stephen Fleming tried to defend his skipper, but he, too, acknowledged that the 29-year-old "can do more". "He hasn't produced the quantity of runs at the pace that he's done in his career, and that's something that he will address," Fleming said.

GALLERY

Taijul lifts B'desh

Bangladesh are three wickets away from a famous Test series win at home after spinner Taijul Islam took 4/113 to rattle Pakistan despite a rearguard by the opposition batters on Tuesday.

Brief scores: Bangladesh: 278 & 390 vs **Pakistan: 232 & 316/7 in 86 overs** (Masood 71, Azam 47, Agha 71, Mohd Rizwan 75n.o; Nahid 2-58, Taijul 4-113).

Sciver-Brunt to miss bilateral series: England captain Nat Sciver-Brunt has been ruled out of the bilateral series against New Zealand and India due to a calf injury, the country's cricket board said on Tuesday, sparking concerns for the hosts of next month's Women's T20 World Cup. The 33-year-old is recovering after a calf tear.

Bopanna open to take up role in AITA: Tennis ace Rohan Bopanna on Tuesday expressed his willingness to take up an administrative role at the All India Tennis Association, which is set to hold elections in the coming time. "If there is an opportunity to change Indian sport and me being part of that," he told PTI.

Pragg held: Praggnanandhaa played out his fourth draw against American Wesley So in the fifth round of the Super Chess Classic in Bucharest. Germany's Vincent Keymer maintained his half-point lead, moving up to 3.5 points. Pragg shares the second spot.

NEUFC end on a high: NorthEast United FC finished their ISL campaign on a high after clinching a 2-0 win against relegated Mohammedan Sporting Club in Guwahati on Tuesday.

Southampton expelled from play-off final: Southampton were expelled from the Championship play-off final on Tuesday by the English Football League for 'spying' on Middlesbrough's training session.

King Kohli credits Dravid, Rathour for rediscovering love for cricket

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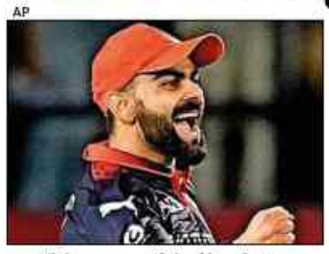
Bengaluru: For 23 Tests and 41 innings between Nov 2019 and March 2023, Virat Kohli endured an uncharacteristic century drought in the five-day format. It was also a phase during which he stepped away from the Test captaincy. Reflecting on that difficult period, Kohli said the two men who stood firmly by him were then India head coach Rahul Dravid and batting coach Vikram Rathour.

Speaking at the RCB Innovation Lab's Indian Sports Summit at the Centre of Excellence here on Tuesday, Kohli said, "Whenever I see or meet them, I always thank them from the bottom of my heart because they really took care of me in a way that made me feel like I want to play for them. They made me realise what I have done so far," he said.

AP



"It's a very thin line between being cautious and being insecure. You always feel like you're never good enough. And that's the imposter syndrome. You have to keep up with your own standards. They understood that. Rahul bhai, of course, has done that way better than a lot of people in Test cricket at the highest level. Vikram Rathour too had been around for so many years. So they understood what I was feeling. And they could relate to it. And they really took care of me mentally. They put me in a space where I could enjoy my cricket again," Kohli said.

'DON'T BELIEVE IN WORKLOAD MANAGEMENT'

Kohli, who spoke about leadership coming naturally to him, also outlined why he didn't believe in the concept of workload management, which is the focal point of multi-format players. "I don't believe in managing workload while you're in the thick of things and your careers are growing. You have to understand your maximum limit first. And then from there, you understand the balance on how much you can do or when you need to start tapering it down. But you can't start managing early in your career; you'll never reach your full potential otherwise. That's the way I operate," explained Kohli, who currently plays only ODIs for the country. A veteran of 123 Test matches, Kohli made an interesting observation of people relating drive to the money which is being offered by T20 cricket.

Asked what still keeps him going, he replied, "It's the drive. A lot of people relate drive to money nowadays. Yes, it's a big factor because when a format that gives you the hype and the recognition, the fame by scoring 40-50 off 20 balls and the kind of money that people can make in the IPL today, it can put you in a very comfortable space and say, you know what? This is brilliant. I don't need to handle pressure for too long. I can just go out there and smash the ball."

For longevity, the mantra according to Kohli is, "..Or you can say, I want to play for 15-20 years. I want to get recognition and respect of the cricketing world, of my own heroes and I want to fulfil this opportunity. That's a very different zone. You have to be very driven to be able to say, I'm going to commit to this for the next 10-15 years and it's going to be very, very hard but I'm up for it."

It's all falling into place for Ishan again

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Chennai: In a span of less than 24 hours, Ishan Kishan went from locking down an IPL playoff spot for Sunrisers Hyderabad to reclaiming his place in India's ODI setup after almost three years.

Just a day after producing a fluent 'Player of the Match' performance (70 off 47b; 7x4, 3x6) in SRH's five-wicket win against Chennai Super Kings on a sluggish surface at MA Chidambaram Stadium, the wicketkeeper-batter was named in India's squad for the three-match ODI series against Afghanistan. Ironically, the last ODI Ishan played for India had also come against Afghanistan in Oct 2023, before his career hit a turbulent phase. What followed was a classic comeback arc. And during the T20 WC, the elegant southpaw had said that he was a "changed man now." That newfound maturity formed the bedrock of his knock against CSK on Monday.

"As a No. 3 batter, I felt my job was to just try and finish the game. So, it was just about being there and believing in yourself. Sometimes the situation is difficult, but we all know how these games are won. You need to believe in yourself. So, I was just keeping it simple," said Ishan.

SNAP SHOTS

Alcaraz to miss Wimbledon

Carlos Alcaraz will skip Wimbledon and the grass-court season as he recovers from a wrist injury that also saw him withdraw from the French Open, the world number two said on Tuesday. "My recovery is going well and I feel much better, but unfortunately I'm still not ready to be able to play, and that's why I have to withdraw from the grass-court swing at Queen's and Wimbledon," the seven-times Grand Slam champion wrote on X.

Hariharan-Arjun duo enters second round: Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun progressed to the second round of the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. The duo scored a 21-19, 21-15 win over seventh seeds Christo Popov and Toma Junior Popov of France. Ashmita Chaliha defeated Pai Yu-po of Chinese Taipei 21-23, 21-16, 21-16 to qualify for the women's singles main draw. Meanwhile, Aakarshi Kashyap lost 21-15, 20-22, 7-21 against Park Ga Eun of Korea.

Aida shoots sub-par round: Karnataka's 12-year-old Aida Thimmaiah shot the lone sub-par round (one-under 64) to take a one-shot lead over Yogya Bhalla on the opening day of the IGU Maharashtra Ladies & Junior Girls Golf Championship at the Willingdon Club in Mumbai on Tuesday.

Indiranagar cruise: Indiranagar FC scored a 3-0 win over Maharaja Socials FC in the BDFA 'C' division football league on Tuesday. **Results Gp 1:** Gouthamma FC 2 (Nagaraj 16-pen, Santhosh 60+2) bt Misska United 1 (Vungjalien 53); Indiranagar 3 (Divyesh M 29, Tony Infant Raj G 37, Md Shadab 87) bt Maharaja Socials 0. **Gp 2:** J Sports 2 (Soothing Chichung 14, Kushal Bahadur 26) bt Town Club Hoskote 1 (Tanish Karan 24); Jai Bharath Nagar 5 (Yashas M 13, Muhammed Maaz 22, Athul Santhosh 28, Manoj Kumar 43, Dhruva Kishore 55) bt Bangalore Muslims 0. Gp 3: Rovers 2 (Puneeth 12, Surya K 56) bt Queen's Star 0; 515 ABW 1 (Roit 59) bt Oriental 0.

'CHOSE NEYMAR FOR EXPERIENCE'

Ancelotti Names Superstar In Brazil's World Cup Squad Despite Injury Struggles

Rio de Janeiro: Neymar has been named in Brazil's squad for next month's World Cup, manager Carlo Ancelotti said on Monday, handing the forward a chance to return to international football's biggest stage after an injury-disrupted cycle.

The 34-year-old, Brazil's all-time leading scorer, comes back following a prolonged absence.

As dozens of journalists gathered at Rio de Janeiro's Museum of Tomorrow for a ceremony featuring music acts and celebrity guests, all eyes were on Ancelotti's decision.

The 66-year-old Italian, who took charge of Brazil's men's national team last year, had not previously called-up the former Barcelona and PSG player. He said earlier this month that Neymar's inclusion would be based on fitness and form, not sentiment.

"We evaluated Neymar throughout the year and noticed that recently he has been playing consistently and has improved his physical condition," Ancelotti said at a press conference on Monday. "He has the same role and responsibilities as everyone else, but he is an experienced player. It's true that in some positions we prioritized experience."

Real Madrid striker Rodrygo, defender Eder Militao and Chelsea's Estevao were left out due to injuries. Chelsea's forward Joao Pedro, midfielder Andrey Santos also surprisingly missed out. REUTERS

CONGRATULATIONS! Loud cheers ring out as Ancelotti announces Neymar's selection in Rio de Janeiro

BACK IN THE FOLD
Neymar's age: 34
Goals: 79 (Brazil's all-time top goal-scorer); **Appearances:** 128
Injury problems: He has been working to regain top fitness after suffering a torn left ACL in Oct 2023 during a World Cup qualifying match against Uruguay. He has not played for Brazil since.
Recent club performance: 8 matches for Santos, 4 goals, 2 assists.

BRAZIL
Goalkeepers: Alisson, Ederson, Weverton; **Defenders:** Alex Sandro, Bremer, Danilo, Douglas Santos, Gabriel Magalhaes, Ibanez, Leo Pereira, Marquinhos, Wesley; **Midfielders:** Bruno Guimaraes, Casemiro, Danilo Santos, Fabinho, Lucas Paqueta; **Forwards:** Endrick, Gabriel Martinelli, Igor Thiago, Luiz Henrique, Matheus Cunha, Neymar, Raphinha, Rayan, Vinicius Jr.

> He can still improve his fitness until the first match of the World Cup. He has experience in this kind of competition, the love of our group, he can create a better environment in this group."
> —Ancelotti

'ONLY 41', RONALDO LEADS PORTUGAL INTO HIS 6th WC

Lisbon: Veteran striker **Cristiano Ronaldo** will lead his country into the 2026 World Cup after coach Roberto Martinez named the 41-year-old in his squad. Martinez selected a 26-man squad with no major surprises, including Ronaldo's Al Nassr team-mate Joao Felix, and also named goalkeeper Ricardo Velho as an extra player in the group.

Jota our plus one, says Martinez

The coach also said late striker Diogo Jota, who died in a car crash in July 2025, was with the squad in spirit. "The spirit strength and example of Diogo Jota is ou plus one," Martinez added. AFP

PORTUGAL
Goalkeepers: Diogo Costa, Jose Sa, Rui Silva, Ricardo Velho; **Defenders:** Diogo Dalot, Matheus Nunes, Ruben Dias, Nelson Semedo, Joao Cancelo, Nuno Mendes, Goncalo Inacio, Renato Veiga, Tomas Araujo; **Midfielders:** Ruben Neves, Samu Costa, Joao Neves, Vitinha, Bruno Fernandes, Bernardo Silva; **Forwards:** Cristiano Ronaldo, Joao Felix, Francisco Trincao, Francisco Conceicao, Pedro Neto, Rafael Leao, Goncalo Guedes, Goncalo Ramos.

Manish stuns Smith

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Bengaluru: After claiming his maiden ATP Challenger quarterfinal berth at the Karnataka Open here last week, Manish Sureshkumar entered the SM Krishna Memorial Open brimming with confidence. The 26-year-old's form was evident in his opening-round clash against top-seeded American Keegan Smith on Tuesday.

Ranked 737 in the ATP circuit, Manish stunned the world No. 245 with a 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 victory to advance to the pre-quarterfinals. Mukund Sasikumar, Kriish Tyagi, and

TENNIS

Sidharth Rawat further added to the nation's delight with notable wins. Sasikumar secured a 7-6 (5), 7-6 (5) victory over eighth seed Maximus Jones of Thailand, while local hope Tyagi defeated Kuan-Yi Lee of Chinese Taipei 7-6 (8), 7-6 (4). Rawat, meanwhile, overcame Australia's Omar Jasika 7-6 (4), 6-2.

Despite the big gap in rankings, Sureshkumar showed no signs of intimidation during the one-hour, 46-minute encounter. Smith's powerful serve failed to unsettle the Indian, who broke his opponent twice in the opening set.

Syed Asif

However, the American responded strongly, producing three aces in the seventh game and breaking Sureshkumar twice in the second set to force the match into the decider. Undeterred, the gritty Chennai player raced to a 3-1 lead. He then won three of the next four games to seal the contest.

"I was the underdog. I decided to go for my shots and not to give easy points. As the match progressed, I felt comfortable. I started to believe that I can win," Sureshkumar said.

Results: Alastair Gray (Gbr) bt Aradhya Kshitij (Ind) 6-1, 6-2; Leo Vithoontien (Jpn) bt Digvijaypratap Singh (Ind) 6-3, 6-4; Mitsuki Wei Kang Leong (Mas) bt Karan Singh (Ind) 5-7, 6-3, 6-2; Mukund Sasikumar (Ind) bt Maximus Jones (Tha) 7-6 (5), 7-6 (5); Hamish Stewart (Gbr) bt Aditya Vishal Balsekar (Ind) 6-4, 6-7 (2), 6-4; Kriish Tyagi (Ind) bt Kuan-Yi Lee (Tpe) 7-6 (8), 7-6 (4); Ilya Ivashka bt SD Prajwal Dev (Ind) 6-3, 6-2; Manish Sureshkumar (Ind) bt Keegan Smith (USA) 6-4, 2-6, 6-2; Sidharth Rawat (Ind) bt Omar Jasika (Aus) 7-6 (4), 6-2; Naoya Honda (Jpn) bt Nitin Kumar Sinha (Ind) 6-4, 6-1.

Tears flow as Hina makes hockey squad

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Bengaluru: When Hina Bano received the news of her maiden call-up to the Indian senior women's hockey team on Monday, emotions came rushing in all at once.

There were tears she tried hard to hold back, nervous laughter that would not stop, and a quiet relief that years of struggle had finally led to this

AGAINST ALL ODDS

moment. Her first instinct was to call her mother.

On the other end of the line, her mother broke down inconsolably — not merely out of joy, but from the memories of everything her daughter had endured to get here.

For the 22-year-old midfielder from Lucknow, the Indian senior team jersey is not just a reward for performance. It is proof that persistence can survive fear, resistance and even violence.

LONG ROAD: Hina Bano

A recent study by BBC and Collective Newsroom on women's participation and viewership in sport showed that female participation in Uttar Pradesh has risen from 1% to 10% over the last five years. Behind that increase are stories of women who have fought social and personal battles simply to continue playing sport.

Hina's story is one of them. She lost her father when she was two years old and was raised by her maternal grandfather Ujagar Ali, a barber for army personnel, along with her uncles. Growing up in a conservative family, sport was never seen as a viable path for girls.

"My grandfather and uncles were against me playing hockey because they worried about what society would say if I went away to a hostel," Hina said. "Since my father had passed away, they felt responsible for me."

Initially, her mother supported her ambition, but eventually family pressure forced her into silence.

Hina began playing hockey in 2014 after her coach Abhishek encouraged her to shift from athletics to the sport. What started as a casual interest soon became a passion she could not walk away from. "Once I started hockey, I couldn't stay away from it," she said.

But the resistance at home intensified. "When I refused to stop playing, they would beat me. I cried many times, not because of the pain, but because the thought of not playing hockey anymore scared me."

Eventually, the pressure forced her to quit for nearly three years. Yet the game kept pulling her back.

In 2017, she secretly attended trials at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) centre in Lucknow without informing her family.

"There was no chance they would have allowed me to go," she admitted.

When she earned selection, she was too afraid to break the news herself. Instead, her school principal and coaches visited her home to convince the family to let her pursue the sport.

"It took a lot of persuading before they finally agreed," she recalled.

Hina's rise since then has been steady. Strong domestic performances earned her a place in the national junior camp in 2022, followed by appearances at the 2023 Junior World Cup and in the Hockey India League.

Her consistent performances eventually brought a senior team call-up, though complete acceptance at home remains a work in progress. "They are slowly coming around," Hina said. "I know the only way I can earn their wholehearted support is by making them proud."

As India prepares for its tour of Australia, Hina admits to carrying the nerves of a newcomer. But she also carries determination. "This is my first tour with the senior team. I don't know what to expect, but I'll give my hundred percent," she said. Her ultimate dream remains clear. "This is just the first step. I want to play at the Olympics."

Whenever doubts creep in, Hina turns to the words of her idol, fellow Uttar Pradesh player Vandana Katariya, one of India's finest hockey players, who retired last year. "I've played domestic tournaments with Vandana. She always told me never to give up and to fight till the end," Hina said.

Arsenal on the brink of title

Arsenal are on the brink of ending a 22-year wait to win the Premier League after beating Burnley 1-0 on Monday to open up a five-point lead at the top. Kai Havertz headed in the only goal but was also lucky to avoid a second-half red card that could swung the title race back in Manchester City's favour.

The Gunners could be crowned champions as early as Tuesday should City fail to win at Bournemouth. Even if City do end the Cherries' 16-game unbeaten run and beat Aston Villa, Arsenal will secure the title with victory at Crystal Palace on Sunday.

Guardiola to leave City
Pep Guardiola is set to bring his trophy-laden decade in charge of Manchester City to an end this weekend, according to multiple reports on Monday. AGENCIES

TIMES NATION

'Man-made heat islands' bake towns across Uttar Pradesh

Mohita Tewari & Mohsin Usmani | TNN

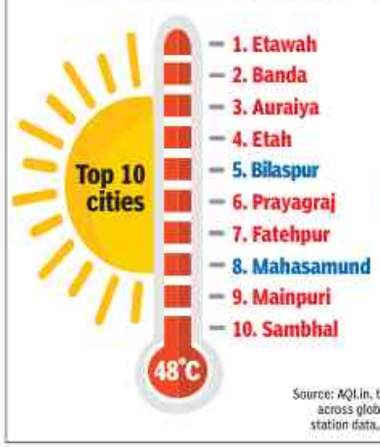
Lucknow: Banda in UP baked at a blistering 48.2° Celsius Tuesday, turning roads gummy, metal searing hot and afternoon air into a blast furnace. Bundelkhand's parched district has emerged as Asia's hottest location four times in a month and topped global heat charts twice, a grim badge for a place meteorologists and geologists described as a fast-expanding "man-made heat island".

On Tuesday, only Saudi Arabia's Jeddah at 48.6°C and Arafat at 48.4°C were hotter anywhere on Earth. Banda hit 47.6°C on May 18 — highest in world that day and hottest May reading there in 75 years. It earlier touched 47.6°C on April 27, also ranking first globally. Asia's highest temperatures were recorded there on April 17 (45.4°C), April 27, May 17 (46.4°C) and May 18.

All-time record remains 49.2°C logged on June 10, 2019. Scientists said what alarms them now is frequency. Forty-sevens and forty-eights are no longer rare spikes.

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

World's 100 hottest cities were all in India



At 2pm on Tuesday, all 100 cities with the world's highest temperature readings were in India. The top 10 were all located in UP and Chhattisgarh. First seven cities hit **48°C,** the others, 47°C

Source: AQI.in, the website tracks real-time readings across global cities; figures may differ from IMD station data, but the broad heat pattern is similar

Why Banda is boiling

Meteorologists blamed fierce dry westerlies from the Thar desert, cloudless skies and relentless solar radiation. Bundelkhand's rocky crust worsens the heat by absorbing it quickly and releasing it slowly after sunset. "Southern UP missed the cooling impact of western disturbances earlier this month. Banda entered heatwave conditions with already elevated temperatures," said IMD senior scientist Mohammad Danish.

Barren Land, Dying Rivers

Geologists said weather alone is not responsible. Banda has barely 3% green cover across around 105 sq km — the lowest in Bundelkhand. Chitrakoot has 18% forest cover, Lalitpur 11.5% and Jhansi 6%. Drying rivers, shrinking groundwater, relentless sand mining and expanding concrete patches have stripped away natural cooling systems. "Banda's albedo is high. Sunlight is trapped instead of being balanced by moisture and vegetation," said geology professor Dhruv Sen Singh.

Power demand breaks record

India's peak power demand set a new record on Tuesday, clocking an all-time high of 260.5 GW and eclipsing the previous high of 257.4 GW registered just a day earlier, as temperatures soared, and the use of ACs in the domestic as well as commercial sectors increased, **reports Atul Mathur.**

'Gym jihad': Gangsters Act invoked against 10

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Varanasi: UP Police have invoked the stringent Gangsters Act against 10 gym owners in Mirzapur on charges of running a racket in which women were allegedly forced to convert to Islam and sexually exploited as part of an operation dubbed "gym jihad".

Gangsters Act is slapped after a process that involves approval from top district authorities. It allows punitive steps such as attachment of properties. The 10 suspects are now in jail after being arrested in Jan-Feb this year on a series of charges tied to conversion and abuse of women.

The gyms had been sealed after FIRs based on complaints from some of the women who were targeted, police said. Investigators suspect that more than 50 women may have been snared in the alleged operation. Mirzapur ASP (City) Nitesh Singh said chargesheets had been filed against the 10, including alleged kingpin Imran Khan. The case was registered on Jan 19, initially under BNS, UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and IT Act. Police claimed Khan and others targeted Hindu women under the guise of providing gym training, luring them into his conspiracy.

Brain clot, ruptured spleen, contusions: Autopsy reveals horrific injuries to Deepika

Noida: The autopsy report of **Deepika Nagar**, 24, whose family has accused her in-laws of killing her after months of dowry harassment, has found multiple grievous external and internal injuries, **reports Adyitya Bahl.** The autopsy found severe contusions on her face, thigh, forearm, chest, abdomen and arms, along with bone-deep wounds on the knee, a ruptured spleen, a clot in the brain and waist injuries. Deepika, her in-laws said, jumped from the third floor of their Greater Noida house. Her family alleged she was tortured and thrown off the terrace.

Following a complaint, her husband Ritik Nagar and father-in-law Manoj were ar-

DOWRY DEATH

rested on Monday. Five other accused, including her mother-in-law, remain absconding, and four teams have been formed to trace them.

The autopsy documented a large swelling of approximately 12 cm × 9 cm on the right side of Deepika's face, bleeding from the left ear, a massive contusion measuring roughly 38 cm × 14 cm on her right thigh, injuries on the left elbow and forearm, a bone-deep wound on the left knee, circular contusions above the right iliac crest and around the right arm, and deep abrasion marks on the chest and abdomen. Internally, doctors found a haematoma (clot) on the left side of the brain, indicating severe head trauma. The spleen was ruptured, internal bleeding was observed across multiple areas, the left kidney appeared pale, and the chambers of the heart were found empty — consistent with massive blood loss, according to the autopsy report. It also mentions visible blunt-force trauma on the face and right thigh.

May 12-May 12: How Twisha's family went from happiness to horror in a year

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Noida: Hours before she was found dead at her marital home in Bhopal, Twisha Sharma (31) called her mother in Noida. "I had an abortion. Book my ticket home, I don't want to live here anymore".

Her parents booked her a flight for May 15. But she never made that journey. Instead, it was the parents who travelled overnight to Bhopal from their Gaur City apartment and found themselves outside a mortuary, waiting to receive her body.

For Twisha's father Navnidhi Sharma, the date has become unbearable in more ways than one. May 12 — the day his daughter died — was exactly a year since the family first met Bhopal-based lawyer Samarth Singh and his relatives at their flat for a small engagement ceremony and to finalise the marriage. "On May 12, 2025, we met Samarth and his family for the first time at our home. We had no idea that exactly a year later, we would find our daughter dead. I curse my decision to agree to the marriage," Navnidhi told TOI over phone from Bhopal, where the family remains as the legal battle continues. Twisha, a beauty pageant winner in Pune who later built a corporate career as a communications manager with a German company, married Samarth on Dec 9, 2025. The two had met through a dating app in 2024.

According to the father, Twisha had already been telling them for weeks that she wanted to leave the marriage. In April, she returned to Noida after allegedly facing harassment from her husband and mother-in-law during her pregnancy. Twisha's body has remained at the AIIMS Bhopal mortuary as the family presses for a second autopsy.

SII activates 'Covishield recipe' to fight deadly Ebola outbreak

Pune: Pune-based vaccine major Serum Institute of India (SII) has entered an emergency response arrangement with the University of Oxford to develop and manufacture an investigational vaccine ready for testing against Bundibugyo strain of Ebola virus, with support from global epidemic preparedness organisation CEPI. The collaboration comes amid a deadly outbreak of the disease in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Ebola strain prompted WHO Monday to declare a public health emergency of international concern, **reports Umesh Isalkar**. Most of the cases have occurred in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with more than 100 suspected deaths and nearly 400 suspected infections. "The University of Oxford will give access to the master viral seed to SII to manufacture and stockpile the vaccine. We are expecting the viral seed within a week," SII owner Adar Poonawalla said.

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Poachers poison 2 tiger siblings in Haridwar forest

M S Nawaz | TNN

Haridwar: Poachers allegedly poisoned two tiger siblings, a two-year-old male and a two-year-old tigress, in Shyampur range of Haridwar forest division, cut off their legs and planned to skin them for the illegal wildlife trade, forest officials said. One Van Gujjar was arrested, three others were absconding, and the mother tigress remained missing as multiple forest teams searched the range.

Forest department teams recovered the body of the male tiger from Sajanpur beat on Monday evening, while the tigress's body was found on Tuesday afternoon from a seasonal drain near the same spot. Officials said the accused allegedly laced buffalo meat with poison after the mother tigress likely killed a Van Gujjar's buffalo a day earlier, and then mutilated the two young tigers.

The arrested accused was identified as Alam alias Ammi, 50. Forest officials said three others — Amir Hamza alias Miyan, Ashiq and Juppi — were absconding. All four were Van Gujjars and lived in an illegal Van Gujjar dera in Shyampur range.

Divisional forest officer, Haridwar forest division, Swapnil Anirudh told TOI that the case came to light after forest staff noticed suspicious movement. Officials said the initial probe pointed to poaching for the illegal wildlife trade. "Initial investigation revealed that they cut off their legs and planned to skin them for sale in the international market," Anirudh said.

From remote village, she's a star at int'l rugby event

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A 20-year-old athlete from a remote Uttarkashi village, who discovered rugby by chance after walking into what she thought was a race trial three years ago, became India's standout player at the Central and South Asia Rugby 7s Championship in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, by winning the women's player of the tournament award in her first senior international outing.

Mahak Chauhan, from Bhadrasu village, scored nine tries for India in the tournament. India's women's team finished fourth, while the men's team won silver at the inaugural CASA Rugby 7s, which was officially sanctioned by Asia Rugby and World Rugby and brought together six women's teams — Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, India, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

Mahak Chauhan (20) was India's highest scorer in the CASA Rugby 7s tournament in Tashkent

Ayush Saini, treasurer of Uttarakhand Rugby Association and coach of the Uttarakhand state women's rugby team, which first gave Mahak Chauhan a platform, told TOI on Tuesday that she was India's highest scorer in the CASA Rugby 7s tournament. "She secured nine try scores during the tournament. She impressed everyone with her pace, fitness and attack. Though the Indian team failed to get a podium finish, her individual performance made the country proud," Saini said. A try is the primary method of scoring in rugby, in which a player grounds the ball in the opponent's goal area.

Mahak's performance gave Indian women's rugby a strong individual story at the start of the international season.